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The adventure of virtual travel



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Enjoying your garden



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Israel takes on Argentina today

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## Netanya boy drowns in kayak disaster

By DAVID RUDGE

A nine-year-old Netanya boy drowned in a boating accident on the upper reaches of the Jordan River yesterday.

Shai Scop was with his family in a rubber kayak when it overturned and all five aboard were flung into the rapids. His mother Rachel, 46, was also injured and was taken to Safed's Rebecca Sieff Hospital.

The rest of the members of the family were uninjured. They were all wearing helmets and life jackets.

Police, members of the Civil Guard's Golan Rescue Team, and MDA ambulances arrived at the

**Police to prosecute trespassers in firing zones, Page 4**

scene within minutes.

It was the second accident in the same area in 24 hours, after a woman had earlier suffered serious head injuries after being swept from a raft. She was evacuated by an IAF helicopter, also to Sieff Hospital.

Nearly two hours after yesterday's accident, the crew of a search helicopter spotted Shai's life jacket near the river bank and directed searchers on the ground to the spot.

Shai was pulled from the river and doctors and paramedics tried for almost an hour to resuscitate him.

It appears that he had suffered head injuries from rocks in the rapids and had swallowed a large quantity of water.

Galilee district police chief Cmdr. Avi Tiller said a full inquiry had been launched into all aspects of the tragedy, particularly whether the boat operators had the appropriate permits.

See KAYAK, Page 2

## Shekel stabilizes against dollar

By DAVID HARRIS

The dollar stabilized against the shekel yesterday at NIS 3.758, compared to interbank trading on Monday, but showed a 1.788 percent appreciation compared to the last representative rate published on Thursday, before the Pessah and Easter holidays.

Politicians and businessmen yesterday urged the government to immediately announce details of the planned currency liberalization package to end the uncertainty in the markets.

A spokesman for the prime minister said last night, however, that there is no intention of announcing the changes until the date on the timetable - on or around Israel's 50th Independence Day, which is April 30.

The basket of currencies, meanwhile, reached a new all-time high against the shekel at NIS 4.0152, up 1.962% on its Thursday rate. Within the basket, the strongest performer against the shekel since Thursday was the Japanese yen, up 4.436% to NIS 2.8954.

The depreciation of the shekel in recent days has pushed the currency well above the lower limit of its trading band against the basket of major currencies.

Full report, Page 13



## Celebrating Saharana

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai greets celebrants yesterday at a Saharana festival, held by Jews of Kurdish origin, in Ein Hemed. He urged Syria to 'listen to the voice of peace' so that an agreement could be reached about Lebanon. Story, Page 3

(Yael Somekh/Israel Sun)

## Negev water line vandalized, supply cut

By DAVID RUDGE

Water supplies to tens of thousands of residents, farmers, and soldiers in the northern Negev were disrupted for nearly 15 hours yesterday because of sabotage to the main supply line.

The perpetrators apparently wrapped a metal chain around a control valve and ripped it from the pipeline with a tractor or other

## Water in Lake Kinneret rises, Page 5

heavy vehicle.

Ramat Negev Local Council Chairman Shmuel Rifman accused one or two local Beduin of being the perpetrators, even though several Beduin communities were among those affected by the water disruption. In response, MK Taleb a-Sanaa (DAP) accused Rifman of incitement against the Beduin community.

The possibility that the crime was nationalistic, rather than mere vandalism, was not being ruled out by police.

The incident underlined the

vulnerability of water supplies to sabotage, following a recent spate of similar but less serious acts of vandalism against Mekorot installations.

The water cuts were especially serious given the ongoing heat wave.

Mekorot spokeswoman Meirav Azulai said the sabotage occurred in the early hours of yesterday morning at a section of the main 36-inch pipeline between Halutza and Revivim.

More than 15,000 cubic meters of water spilled from the broken pipe before the act was discovered and Mekorot workers were able to stop the flow and begin repairs.

The pipeline supplies water for domestic, industrial, and agricultural use in the Negev Hills region, including the towns of Dimona and Yeroham, and factories in the Mishor Rotem area, as well as moshavim, kibbutzim, and IDF bases in the region," she said.

The areas affected were Mitzpe Rimon, Shifra, Sde Boker, Mishor Rotem, Dimona, Yeroham, Tze'elim, and Revivim.

See WATER, Page 5

## Philip Roth wins Pulitzer for 'American Pastoral'

By RICHARD PYLE

NEW YORK (AP) - Philip Roth was awarded his first Pulitzer Prize yesterday, in the fiction category, for his 22nd novel, *American Pastoral*. Roth won National Book Critics Circle awards for *The Counterlife* in 1988 and his 1992 memoir *Patrimony*.

In *American Pastoral*, Roth writes about subjects close to home - in this instance, New Jersey, especially Newark - and Jewishness.

The book follows the life of a storied high school athlete, Seymour "Swede" Levov, who, as a decent soul, deserves better than he gets from life.

Paula Vogel won the Pulitzer for drama for *How I Learned to Drive*, an off-Broadway production about a young woman molested by her uncle and its effect on her life.

The prize for biography was awarded to *Personal History* by Katharine Graham, chairman of the executive committee of The Washington Post Co. Graham was

publisher of the *Post* from 1969 to 1979 and its chairman of the board from 1973 to 1993.

The Pulitzer for general non-fiction went to *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies* by Jared Diamond, a professor of physiology at the University of California, Los Angeles. More than 200 of his articles on natural history and related subjects have been published.

The poetry award went to Charles Wright for his collection *Black Zodiac*. Wright won the National Book Critics Circle award earlier this year.

Aaron Jay Kernis won the music prize for *String Quartet No. 2, Musica Instrumentalis*.

The Pulitzer Board awarded a special citation to the late composer George Gershwin, marking the 100th anniversary of his birth.

The Pulitzer for history went to Edward J. Larson for *Summer for the Gods: The Scopes Trial and America's Continuing Debate Over Science and Religion*.

## PA: Hamas leadership had Sharif killed

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

The Palestinian Authority yesterday continued to seek the identity of the Hamas leader who issued the order to assassinate bombmaker Muhi Sharif.

A senior official announced last night that he was shot in the back by others in Izzadin Kassam, Hamas's military wing.

But shocked Palestinians and legislators hesitated to accept the findings and some suggested that Israel had penetrated the terror organization.

"They shot him twice in the back," PA secretary-general Tayeb Abdul Rahim, who chaired the investigation committee, said in an unannounced call-in program on Voice of Palestine.

Abdul Rahim said the details of the Sharif killing were revealed by Ghassan Adassi, one of five suspects. He said Adassi's confession was not extracted by force and he insisted that Izzadin Kassam killed Sharif.

"I sat with Ghassan Adassi and told him: 'My son, I am your father or your big brother. Is there any Israeli connection? Please,'" Abdul Rahim said. "My father was killed, too. Muhi Sharif is a symbol. Ghassan Adassi said 'I am telling you in good conscience that the matter is an internal one for the Izzadin Kassam brigades.'"

Abdul Rahim disclosed that Sharif was one of at least three Izzadin Kassam members ordered killed by Hamas leaders.

This did not include the 1996 assassination of Yihye Ayyash, in which, Abdul Rahim said, Hamas leaders wanted to conceal a member's involvement by issuing an order - that was not carried out - that his body be blown up after he was killed.

"We are investigating all angles in the Sharif killing," Abdul Rahim said. "Was it a political disagreement, that Muhi Sharif wanted coexistence with the PA or was it over his complaints that he hadn't received the money [he felt he

was owed]?" Officials said the PA investigation, although the results have not been released, is virtually complete. The final element, they said, is to determine whether Sharif's death was ordered by the Hamas leadership.

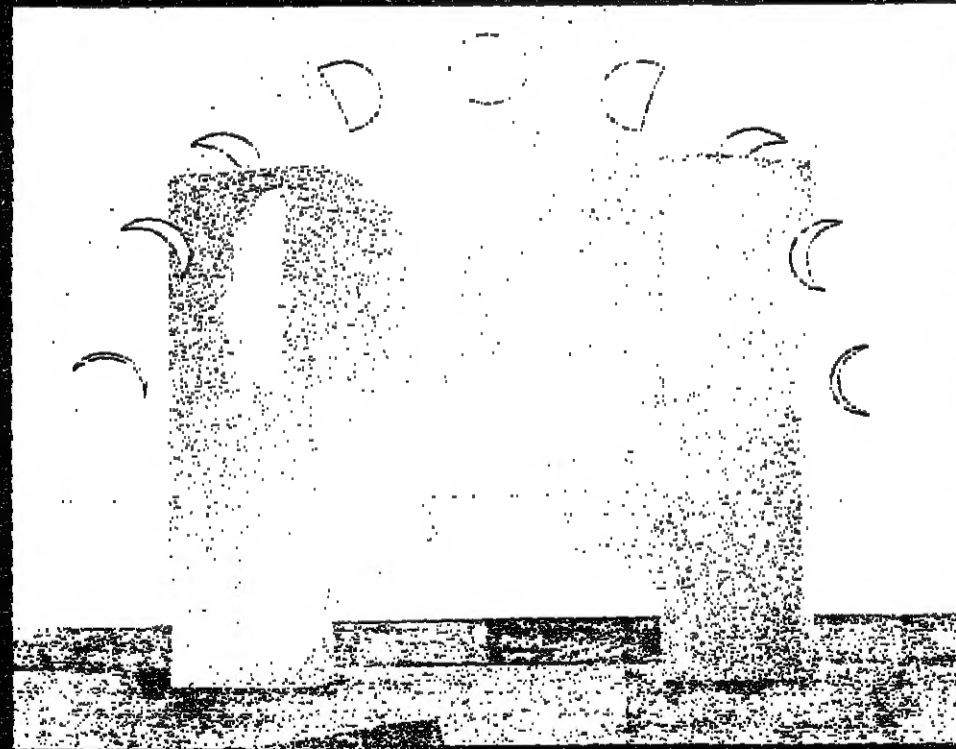
Abdul Rahim said Sharif met with Izzadin Kassam and Adassi at about 6 p.m. on March 29 in a workshop owned by Adassi's father. A brother of the owner had been evicted from the premises several weeks earlier to make room for Sharif, who was using the name Nadim Abu Snehneh.

At the meeting, Awadallah, brother of Izzadin Kassam leader Adel Awadallah, and Sharif got into an argument over money that Sharif said was meant for him. Abdul Rahim said Awadallah replied: "You should know your place. You are not the leader."

Awadallah then left the workshop and went to a nearby vehicle.

See SHARIF, Page 2

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Erik Vanouhou, artist

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## NEWS

in brief

## Murder investigation focuses on Kibbutz Na'an

Police investigating the rape and murder of Yami Regev, 23, are becoming increasingly convinced she was killed by someone who lives on her kibbutz, Na'an. After questioning those who saw Regev before she left the kibbutz pub late Friday night and other kibbutz members, the police have determined that only young people from the kibbutz were in the pub that night. On the day of the murder, no strangers were seen entering the kibbutz, and there is no evidence that any did so. While the police remained close-mouthed yesterday, sources close to the investigation denied reports that physical evidence suspected of belonging to the murderer had been found. *Itm*

## Newspaper denies Iran bought nuclear weapons

An Iranian newspaper yesterday denied that Iran purchased nuclear weapons from the former Soviet Union, as reported in *The Jerusalem Post* last week. The government-controlled *Iran News* also accused Israel of trying to stir up anti-Iranian sentiment. "With such anti-Iran propaganda, Tel Aviv attempts to form an anti-Iranian coalition in the Middle East, thereby overshadowing its own lack of cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency," the newspaper said. *Iran News* also accused Israel of trying to foil Iran's nuclear research program which, it said, was being developed for non-military purposes. Russia is building Iran's first nuclear reactor near the southern port of Bushehr. *AP*

## 50,000 people join in Jerusalem celebration

Some 50,000 people filled Jerusalem's Sacher Park last night to take part in a celebration there entitled, "Jerusalem - A light to the world."

"Jerusalem is continuing and will continue to be center for all types of populations - religious, secular, Jews and non-Jews. This is what makes the city special and always will," Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert said. *Itm*

## Soldier injured in training accident

A soldier was seriously injured in a training accident near Moshav Alma, north of Safed, late on Monday night, the IDF Spokesman reported yesterday. The soldier, from the Armored Corps, was badly hurt when he fell several meters from a cliff while on an orientation exercise with another soldier. The terrain proved too difficult for ambulances and other vehicles and the wounded soldier was evacuated by helicopter. He was initially taken to Safed's Rebecca Sieff Hospital, but because of the seriousness of his condition was later transferred to Rambam Hospital in Haifa. OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amir Levine has appointed a colonel to investigate. *David Rudge*

## 3 people fined for assaulting tourists at holy site

Gueta Asher, 61, Eitan Hachmon, 35 and his wife Nitza Hachmon, 32, were fined NIS 250 apiece yesterday by the Tiberias Magistrate's Court and given a three months' suspended sentence, for assaulting three women tourists and a 70-year-old man from Kiryat Bialik on Monday at the grave of Rabbi Yonatan Ben-Uziel. The elderly victim, who was guiding the women, was still in the hospital yesterday. The three claimed they had struck the group for wearing shorts to the holy site. Police stressed that the assaults were not haredim, as previously reported, but traditional Jews from Netanya. *Itm*

## Group plans to move onto Har Homa

A protest group said yesterday it would move onto Har Homa on Independence Day, whether they received government approval or not. "We will raise the Israeli flag on Independence Day and force the government of Israel to begin building there on the 50th anniversary of Israel," Avi Schmidt, a member of the Har Homa Committee, told Channel 2. Channel 2 said the committee plans to place mobile homes for dozens of families on that day. *AP*

## Two killed on roads

Ya'acov Shilian, 60, of Tel Aviv, was killed yesterday when he was hit by a van while jaywalking. The driver was held for questioning. Reni Weintraub, 19, of Hadera, was killed when his motorcycle collided with a van in the city. *Itm*

## Hadash calls for Knesset session on Hebron

The Hadash faction has collected the 30 signatures of MKs necessary to convene a special session of the Knesset during the Pessah recess. The MKs are calling for a discussion of the protests in the vicinity of Hebron this week and alleged "politicization" of the police under Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani. Hadash whip Salah Salim accused the police of acting on the basis of what he called political orders in the handling of protests. *Liat Collins*

## Norway sees meeting as forum for peace

Norway hopes to nudge the peace forward next month if Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and former prime minister Shimon Peres turn up in Oslo for a meeting of the Socialist International. Norway brokered the 1993 Oslo Accords. Norwegian Labor Party leader Thorbjørn Jagland, a former prime minister, said his party has invited Peres, Arafat, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin and other top social democrats to the May 17-19 meeting in Oslo. *AP*

## Resting place of Hollywood Jews to stay open

Beth Olam Cemetery, the last resting place of numerous Hollywood luminaries, has been saved from foreclosure after two years of failed rescue attempts. Beth Olam is the Jewish section of the century-old Hollywood Memorial Park, whose sale for \$375,000 to Tyler Cassidy, a St. Louis cemetery operator, was finalized last Friday. The memorial park's previous owners declared bankruptcy two years ago, and on-and-off negotiations to find a buyer have agitated the Jewish community. An estimated 20,000 Jews are buried at Beth Olam, among them actors Paul Muni, Edward G. Robinson, Peter Lorre and Mel Blanc, producers Harry Cohn and Jesse Lasky, and mobster Benjamin (Bugsy) Siegel. *Tom Tugend*

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The Keren Kayemet organization  
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## Israel denies spying on Cyprus

By JAY BUSHINSKY

IAF F-16s violated international flight procedures during a flight near Cyprus last Friday, officials confirmed yesterday. But Israel rejected a Cypriot newspaper report that their objective was to photograph sites where Russian S-300 surface-to-air missiles will be deployed.

"The only problem was that they did not transmit the signal required by the international Flight Information Regime upon approach Cyprus air space," said

Foreign Ministry spokesman Aviv Shur-On. The FIR procedures are governed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Ambassador to Cyprus Shemi Tur was quoted by the Cyprus Foreign Ministry spokeswoman as having submitted a formal apology, which she said had been accepted.

According to the account published in Nicosia, the aerial photographs were meant for immediate relay to Turkish military intelligence.

An IAF statement said the

planes "were on a routine training mission at very high altitude over the Mediterranean Sea, but were never less than 30 km from Cyprus' shoreline."

Cypriot Ambassador Euripedes Evriades denied that his country's air space was violated by IAF aircraft. The incident occurred near Paphos, at Cyprus' western tip, where the Cypriots are known to be building a new air force base.

"There was no violation of our air space," Evriades said. "We continue to have excellent relations with Israel in all fields and

are ameliorating them."

He said the S-300s will not be installed before the end of the summer or early fall and that they may not be set up at all if there is positive movement with regard to the Cyprus government's call for the divided island to be demilitarized.

The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, which declared its independence after Turkey's armed forces invaded Cyprus 24 years ago, fears that the Turkish air force will lose its currently unchallenged control of Cyprus air space if the S-300s

become operational. Ergun Olgun, a political adviser to Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash, said Turkish planes will take out the missiles as soon as they are deployed.

US Secretary of Defense William Cohen is expected to deal with the tension spawned by the Cypriots' purchase of the S-300s during his tour of the region. He is scheduled to visit Turkey Thursday and Friday and will be in Greece next Tuesday. He is due here Monday after stops in Jordan and Egypt.

## Army prosecutor to appeal release of Lebanese

The IDF's chief prosecutor plans to challenge a court decision to acquit a Lebanese man of charges of firing Katyushas at Israel, a military spokesman said yesterday.

"The army prosecutor will file an appeal in order to arrest Ali Ahmed Banjak," the spokesman said.

A military court in Lod on Monday acquitted Banjak, citing reasonable doubt. Its decision came two years after Banjak's capture and transfer to Israel.

An army spokeswoman said he "had been accused of membership in Hizbullah and helping to fire Katyushas during Operation Grapes of Wrath."

The spokeswoman said the court had ordered Banjak deported to Lebanon within 48 hours.

Banjak, 21, said he was kidnapped two years ago just north of Israel's occupation zone by SLA militiamen and taken across the border.

"I was astounded at the acquittal... because generally when someone is taken in Lebanon he receives a heavy sentence," he told reporters.

Banjak was not part of a group of 10 Lebanese detainees who Israel has acknowledged holding without trial as "bargaining cards" in negotiations over missing Israeli servicemen.

Last month, the Supreme Court approved their detention. It said the practice infringes on human rights, but Israel's "vital interests" took precedence. (Reuters)

## KAYAK

Continued from Page 1

The police are also expected to investigate the possibility of negligence and whether boating should be allowed on dangerous stretches of the river.

Shai's death brought to three the number of youngsters killed in accidents over Pessah. Yiftah Shein, 11, of Herzliya, was killed on Monday when he fell from a cliff in Jordan's Nahal Armon region which he had been visiting with his family.

In a similar accident on the same day, Moshe Kanan, 14, of Petah Tikva, was killed in a fall in the Nahal Arugot area, near Ein Gedi, where he had been hiking with his family.

Mountain rescue teams, composed of volunteers who are attached to the Civil Guard, have carried out at least 16 missions in various parts of the country in the past few days. Several of the incidents involved groups or families getting lost in the Golan, Galilee, or the Judean Desert, or people suffering from dehydration. The Golan team alone rescued 12 groups, *Itm* reported.

Police reiterated appeals to hikers to ensure they are properly equipped, coordinate beforehand with the appropriate authorities, and obey warning signs and stay on marked trails.

Senior police officers blamed many of the incidents on parents and trip organizers who, they said, were guilty of negligence or simple lack of common sense.

## Winning Numbers

In yesterday's weekly Payis Hazak drawing, ticket number 374709 won NIS 1.5 million, while ticket number 397652 won the car.

Tickets 678237, 685879, 774827, 652072, 709061, 367443 and 228188 won NIS 5,000. Tickets ending in 37400, 18831, 95421, 02407, 50770, 44874, 63675, 31507, 95549, 32370, 78866, 22735, 79067, 52637, 56493, 42787, 60163, 83669 and 84520 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 410, 639, 990 and 334 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 49, 31, 66 and 92 won NIS 30. Tickets ending in 12 and 15 won NIS 10.



## Free Vanunu demo

Bruce Kent (left), Susannah York, and Ben Binberg, part of the Committee to Free Mordechai Vanunu, demonstrate outside the Israeli Embassy in London yesterday. Two British MPs have asked permission to visit Vanunu next Sunday, while Prime Minister Tony Blair is here. (Reuters)

## Gingrich assails Clinton's Mideast policy

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES - Attempts by the United States to put forward its own plans for settling Israeli-Palestinian differences are wrong-headed and will only harden Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's stance, according to US House Speaker Newt Gingrich. "The idea that the president can propose a US map for a country he does not know is a disaster," the Georgia Republican said.

Gingrich spoke yesterday evening on Middle East and domestic topics to more than 300 major supporters of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. He charged the US State

Department with "astounding arrogance" for allegedly substituting its own judgment for direct negotiations between Israel and the PA.

In a talk strongly supportive of the policies of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Gingrich said that there is no incentive for Arafat to make serious concessions if every time he gets into a tight spot, Washington sends another mission.

"The Clinton administration has not held Arafat's feet to the fire," Gingrich said. "We believe that Israel must determine its own destiny, period."

Announcing that he would lead a congressional delegation to Israel next month to participate in

50th anniversary celebrations, Gingrich said that "we must be constantly vigilant so Israel will survive for another 50 years."

During a question period, an audience member pointed to the Jewish community's concern to preserve the separation between church and state and asked the speaker's stand on prayers in public schools.

Without answering directly, Gingrich said that he was opposed to "clumsy efforts to eliminate God from public life," and linked the decline in public schools to such efforts.

In a brief interview after his talk, Gingrich acknowledged that there were some tensions between the Jewish community and the

activist Christian Coalition, but that they shared a belief in God and could work together on some broad issues.

During his talk, Gingrich cited Theodor Herzl along with Oxford historian Martin Gilbert, and the 19th century French writer Alexis de Tocqueville to emphasize points on foreign and domestic issues.

Each audience member received a copy of Gingrich's latest book, *Lessons Learned the Hard Way: A Personal Report*, which some analysts believe is part of the congressman's runup for the next presidential race.

Queried on such ambitions, Gingrich said, "I have not made a decision at all."

## SHARIF

Continued from Page 1

He returned with a gun and shot Sharif five times in the back, chest, and leg. Then, Awadallah told Adassi, who had been trained to replace Sharif as Hamas' chief bombmaker, to prepare a time bomb that would go off between 8:45 and 8:50. By 6:45, Adassi put together a five-kilo bomb and placed it in the rest room. He then went home for a nap.

Awadallah returned to his apartment, about 120 meters from the garage where Sharif's body lay, Abdul Rahim said. The time bomb worked and the explosion rocked the neighborhood, destroying the Adassi workshop and an adjacent carpentry.

Palestinian Preventive Security responded to the report of an explosion and immediately learned that the Adassi family was the owner of the building. PPS agents then arrested the entire family, but suspected Ghassan, a Hamas leader at Bir Zeit University.

Abdul Rahim said that, from the start, Adassi provided details of Hamas operations. He first told interrogators of 20 kilograms of explosives in the apartment of Ahmed Sheik Kassam and detonators in Adassi's sister's apartment. Later, PPS agents found a computer disc and textbooks on bomb manufacturing in Ghassan's apartment. In the apartment of Adassi's sister, Susan, was one of his bombs, Abdul Rahim said.

Adassi insisted that the Sharif killing was solely the work of Izzadin Kassam, Abdul Rahim said. In a message to Hamas leader Abdul Aziz Rantisi, he said, Adassi asserted that Israel had nothing to do with Sharif's death.

"I carried a message from Ghassan Adassi to Abdul Aziz Rantisi that this is an internal dispute within Hamas," Abdul Rahim said. "But Rantisi continues his

media campaign against the PA, which led to his arrest by Brig-Gen. Ghazi Jabali."

Abdul Rahim said Hamas has ordered the assassination of several members of Izzadin Kassam. These included the 1994 assassination of Imad Akl by a Hamas member Abdul Rahim identified as Walid Hamdy. He said Hamdy was one of the 415 Hamas militants deported to Lebanon by Israel in 1992 and later became the leader of Izzadin Kassam in Gaza.

In addition, Izzadin Kassam veteran Kamal Kheil was killed by his colleagues Nidal Dabbabesh and Ziad Khishasi, Abdul Rahim said. The booby-trapped cellular phone used in the 1996 assassination of Ayyash, he said, was given to him by Hamas member Osama Hamad. The phone was reportedly supplied by Israel's General Security Service.

"[After Ayyash's death] some of Hamas leaders told [Izzadin Kassam leaders] Mohammed Deif and Ahmed Safadi, 'We don't need any troubles or concerns. Blow him [Ayyash] up,'" Abdul Rahim said. "But Deif said, 'No. We must inform PA Chairman Yasser Arafat and organize an official funeral for him.'"

Hamas sources refused to confirm the details of the PA investigation, although they asserted that there has been a rift in the movement over the last three years.

Earlier, Abdul Rahim briefed the Palestinian Legislative Council on the PA investigation. But PLC members sounded skeptical and Hamas representatives insisted that Israel was responsible for Sharif's death.

## SOCIAL &amp; PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will NOT take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Happy Pessah to all.

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'New York Times' reports:

## Iraq executed 1,500 political prisoners in '97

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

NEW YORK - Iraq has executed 1,500 people in the last year, largely for political reasons, *The New York Times* reported yesterday, citing a survey due to be presented to the UN Human Rights Commission. Baghdad scored the report as the "lies" of an agent of US intelligence and Zionism.

Most of the summary executions occurred last November and December in what was described as a "prison-cleansing campaign" ordered by the younger son of Saddam Hussein, Qusay. He directs Iraq's Special Security Organization, an armed intelligence agency.

After Qusay Hussein's visit to one prison, large numbers of prisoners were shot, hanged, or electrocuted there and in other prisons, according to a report prepared by Max van der Stoep, a former Dutch foreign minister who is now the UN special rapporteur on Iraq.

Families were forced to pay for the bullets before they could claim the bodies, *the Times* reported.

*Al Qadisiya*, the official Iraqi government newspaper, on Monday called van der Stoep an agent of American intelligence and Zionism who had been ordered "to spread lies and put out idiotic reports that no one will take seriously."

The Iraqi delegation also took the floor at the UN Commission on Human Rights to reject van der Stoep's report as a "mere repetition of the same allegations and false accusations."

Van der Stoep, who has served as rapporteur on human rights in Iraq since 1991, presented his report to the 53-member body holding its annual six-week session in Geneva.

"I am sad to report that there has been no meaningful improvement in the situation of human rights in Iraq in the last year," he said. "Rather, the people of Iraq have continued to suffer in the grip of one of the most ruthless dictatorships the world has seen since the end of World War II."

Van der Stoep noted that Iraq continues to have the highest number of cases of forced disappearance, nearly 20,000, recorded by the UN.

"This is only a fraction of the total who disappeared and are believed to have been killed," he added.

Van der Stoep has been refused entry to Iraq since 1992, and his report is based on materials smuggled out of Iraq, data compiled by exiled Iraqi opposition groups, and information that was transmitted to Turkey by Iraqi Kurds.

He is considered credible because he has been reporting on Iraq since the Gulf war, *the Times* said.

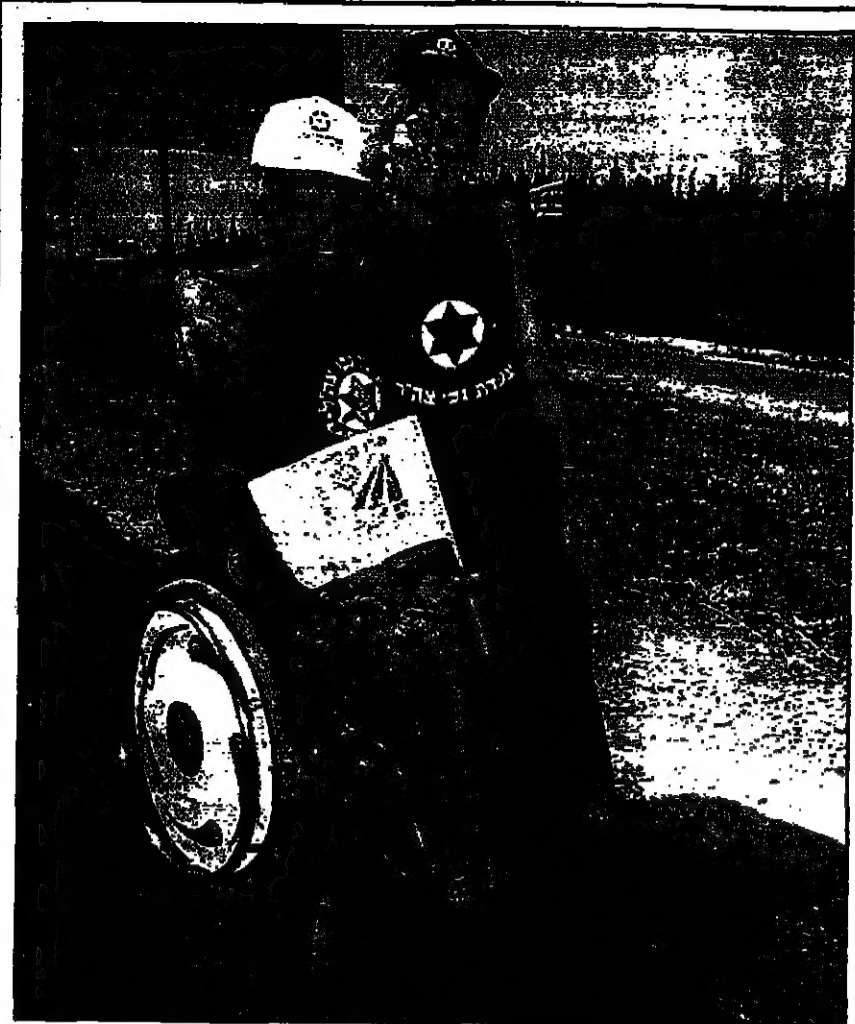
In his report, van der Stoep said Baghdad relentlessly pursues all political critics. In October, for instance, 14 military officers and politicians, who were accused of planning an attempt on Saddam's life, were executed. In another case, 23 people were sentenced to death, including three military officers charged with "maneuvering" against the government, *the Times* reported.

Van der Stoep's report also says that Baghdad continues to forcibly resettle ethnic minorities - especially Kurds and Turkomen in Kirkuk, north of Baghdad - and of moving Arabs into that region.

The human rights report comes one month after a separate UN study concluded that Iraq leads the world in "forced disappearances," with 16,000 people reported missing in the last decade.

Prodded by Russia, the Security Council is expected by the end of the month to try to reward Iraq for cooperating with UN arms inspectors. Those efforts could be bolstered by the six-month report of International Atomic Energy Agency, submitted Monday, which said that investigations into Iraq's nuclear program found "no indication of prohibited materials, equipment or activities."

However, the US has made an improvement in Iraq's human rights record a condition to lift economic sanctions.



JNF dedicates park for disabled veterans

Moshe and Hannah Mazeh check out the first Jewish National Fund Disabled Veterans Park, which was dedicated yesterday. The park, located near Beit Shemesh, has wheelchair-accessible paths, as well as raised picnic tables with barbecues.

(Joe Malcolini)

## Lebanese girl wounded in mortar attack

By DAVID RUDGE and news agencies

A young Lebanese girl was wounded when gunmen fired mortars at a South Lebanese Army position in the eastern sector of the security zone and the nearby village of Rehan.

The girl, a resident of Rehan, was treated at the scene and later taken to Marjayoun hospital suffering from light injuries.

Hizbullah was believed to be responsible for the shooting.

IDF gunners shelled suspected terrorist attack north of the zone in response to the attack.

Meanwhile, France said yesterday it agreed with Lebanon that Israel should withdraw unconditionally in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 425.

Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine, meeting reporters following talks with his Lebanese counterpart Faris Bouez, brushed aside a request from Washington urging Beirut to give serious consideration to Israel's 425 initiative.

"It seems to me that Lebanon takes the resolution seriously," he responded when asked about the US message.

Vedrine said that the 425 initiative "was not viable because it sets conditions that are not in the United Nations' resolution."

"We think Israel cannot change the terms of the resolution," Bouez told reporters.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said

yesterday while at a Saharana celebration, that is traditionally held by Jews of Kurdish descent, in Ein Hemed: "I hope very much that the Syrians will listen to the voice of peace and contribute so that we can reach an agreement with Lebanon, through which we can achieve an agreement with the Syrians."

Israel is expected to submit a complaint to the Grapes of Wrath monitoring group over the yesterday's shooting in south Lebanon.

Also yesterday, the IDF's Karkum position, in the western sector of the security zone, came under shelling from mortars. The shooting ignited a brush fire near the outpost. There were no reported casualties.

There were also long-range mortar and rocket attacks on IDF and SLA positions in the western and eastern sectors of the zone on Monday night.

There were no casualties in those incidents either, but slight damage was done to two IDF positions. IDF gunners returned fire.

According to security sources, the resumption of the long-range shooting attacks is a sign that Hizbullah is returning to a routine after a break for the Id al-Adha holiday.

Brig-Gen. Erez Gerstein, head of the IDF's Lebanese Liaison Unit, yesterday presented citations to nine outstanding officers and soldiers, including those who helped repulse a Hizbullah attack on the SLA's Ghazlan position in the security zone's eastern sector earlier this year.

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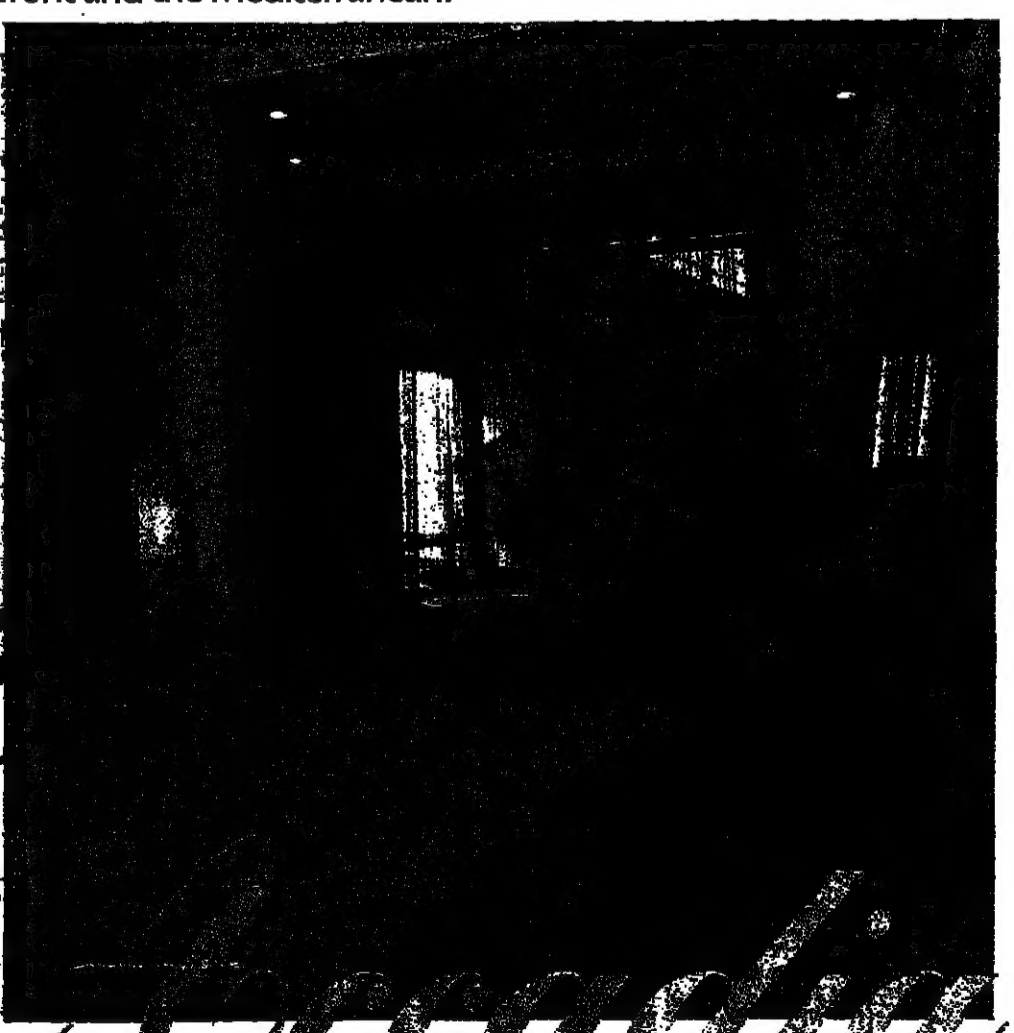
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## RUSSIAN PRESS REVIEW

By YOSIEF BEGUN

### Reluctance to serve

A dangerous drop in motivation to serve in IDF combat units can be explained by pacifistic school curricula, says Sofia Ron in *Vesti*, referring to statements by army officers who accuse teachers of failing to prepare pupils for army service. The real reason, she suggests, is the atmosphere of the peace process, which was generated by the signing of the Oslo Accords.

At the time, the Education Ministry was under the control of Meretz, which "enriched" the curriculum with "lessons of peace." Students were told that times were changing: Arabs were no longer our enemies, that concessions were a "humane act," and that war would never come again to our region, the "New Middle East." So why should one think about military service? Enjoying today with no responsible thought for tomorrow has become the norm for today's high-school students, she says.

"How hypocritical can you get? You have convinced your people that making concessions is inevitable, you've plastered the word 'defeatism' on your banners, and now you are surprised that motivation is decreasing?"

### Netanyahu's stall tactics

Rivka Rabinovich in *Vremya* presents her view of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's method of attaining his political goals under American and European pressure.

"While peace movements claim to support the peace process, the government is using a sophisticated mechanism for braking this process - neutralizing the American initiative and killing time. So far it seems to be working."

The secret is to create the illusion of intense activity rather than stagnation. There are many meetings and discussions among various government bodies and members, and there is an atmosphere of animated procedures - which so far have resulted in nothing, she says.

### Apologies, apologies

"...we accuse the Catholic Church of ignoring Zionist claims if Judaism is virtually ignoring them as well?" says Arye Baratz

in *Vesti*. "Should the pope be a more devoted Jew than the chief rabbi of Israel?"

For centuries, the Catholic Church has not persecuted Jews - at least not on an official level, he says. In Europe of the Middle Ages, Judaism was the only legal form of religious "heterodoxy."

If we anticipate an apology from the Catholics, it should be directed in another way. Why didn't the Vatican intercede for the Jewish victims of the Nazis? Why did the Church allow the Germans to break the Catholic tradition of peaceful coexistence with Jews?

"For the time being, such an apology has not been made," says Baratz. "As for the unreadiness of Catholics to side with Zionist claims, we cannot demand such things from them... since we haven't even heard it distinctly from the Jewish leadership."

### Liberalizing the shekel

Arye Petel in *Meridian* comments that the first steps toward liberalizing the currency have led to a painful devaluation of the shekel. Those who have to pay in dollars for apartments or airline tickets feel their wallets getting emptier more quickly than before. Maybe there are groups who benefit from these measures, says Petel, but not the hard-working general public.

Leonid Borisov in *Secret* begs to differ. "Liberalization of the currency markets represents a move to long-awaited capitalism here. Granted, this dramatic move may initially be accompanied by undesirable side effects; but in the end, everyone will benefit."

### Peace Now goes too far

Most columnists in the Russian-language press condemned the Peace Now appeal to the US to exert pressure on the Netanyahu government to withdraw from a larger percentage from Judea and Samaria. Dov Kontor in *Vesti* writes, "The left-wing extremists can't rely on ordinary demonstrations, because an overwhelming majority of Israelis support Netanyahu. Unable to gather enough support in this country, they are seeking assistance abroad."



# NRP plans Shabbat on Hashomer kibbutz

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The Shabbat after next is going to be different than all other Shabbats for Education Minister Yitzhak Levy and the members of Kibbutz Ein Shemer.

Aiming to "open a wider dynamic of dialogue" between observant and secular Israelis, Levy yesterday announced plans for himself, Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom and a delegation of observant Education Ministry officials to spend that Shabbat as guests of the kibbutz.

Interviewed on Army Radio, Levy said that the weekend, in which the kibbutz will provide its guests with kosher food, a room for prayers, and other Shabbat needs, is "an attempt [for observant and non-observant] to get closer together."

Levy said similar Shabbat gatherings would be held in the future, "to create a circle of informal, personal dialogue, where we simply talk with each other."

Levy, who initiated the idea, said it was especially fitting to launch such a project during the nation's jubilee year.

Kibbutz Ein Shemer residents will not be required to change any of their regular activities to accommodate the guests, Levy said.

"I didn't ask what they eat there, or what they're preparing in their kitchen," he said.

"I very much hope that this process will be the beginning," Levy said, adding that he hoped it would be possible for a similar dialogue between haredim and

secular as well.

Levy's spokesman, Yitzhak Rath, said that some 20 couples would be hosted at the kibbutz, including "a representative selection of leading educators in Israel."

Among those coming for the weekend will be the head of a heder yeshiva, the head of a yeshiva high school, the head of the Religious Education Authority, and the head of the ministry's culture authority.

"The kibbutzniks are free to bring whoever they want to our discussions - people from the kibbutz, or from outside," he said.

There will be three symposia held during the weekend. The topics of the symposia were left to kibbutz officials.

"The goal is to have a Shabbat together. We hold many such gatherings, but if it takes place on Shabbat it's usually that they have to come to us. We thought it would be good for us to go to them for once, to their kibbutz," Levy said.

"The problem is the logistics. For a kibbutz like this to host us on Shabbat isn't so simple."

One of our people is helping with this, and they are also going out of their way to accommodate our needs."

"We want to show that there is no kind of coercion, and that one can respect the Shabbat and needs of the other without giving up any of his principles," Rath said.

"They'll eat their food, we'll eat ours. We'll sit together in the dining room; we'll sing our songs and they can join in if they want, or not. We'll hold our services in a

room there and if they want to take a peek, they can. If not, they can sit in the dining room and smoke and wait for us to finish so they can join the symposia."

"We won't criticize them about anything, and they won't criticize us. I hope it will work out."

Hakibbutz Ha'artzi Secretary-General Avshalom Vilan said the federation had agreed to participate, "believing that the time has come that we hold a real dialogue, even if it is a difficult one, on just what it means for the various streams of Judaism to coexist in the state of Israel, between people who are observant and who aren't observant."

"The dialogue will be about everything, starting with things we agree and disagree upon regarding Judaism. I assume it will also include political matters."

Ein Shemer officials approved the idea overwhelmingly, he said, "and it will be an interesting Shabbat."

Asked whether the kibbutz representatives would raise the issue of demands by religious officials to close kibbutz stores and other operations on Shabbat, he said: "If the process is one of dialogue and the preparation of a new social pact for the state of Israel where there are no laws of religious coercion, and all these matters are left to be worked out in understandings between the streams, we will be prepared to make significant concessions to the religious, if this is on the basis of understanding and agreement, and not coercion and legislation."



## Remembering Deir Yassin

Zainab Akel (left), who witnessed the killings by Jewish fighters in her village of Deir Yassin in 1948, weeps yesterday as she visited the area, adjacent to what is now the Jerusalem neighborhood of Har Nof.

(Reuters)

## Police to prosecute trespassers in firing zones

By LIAT COLLINS

Hikers who ignore the signs and enter IDF firing zones not only run the risk of being shot,

but of being prosecuted, the police announced yesterday. The announcement followed two such cases in as many days.

Meanwhile, the country's green groups have renewed their appeal to hikers to abide by general safety rules, the most important being not to stray from mapped routes and not to ignore warning signs.

"The accidents which have occurred could nearly all have been prevented," said Nature Protection and National Parks Authority spokesman Ofer Greenstein. "There have been cases of clear irresponsibility and negligence. Hikers can do the same trips, but more safely, if they consult the authorized bodies in advance and stick to the paths."

Rescue teams, which operate on a voluntary basis, have been called out some 15 times since the start of the holiday, including to recover the body of a youth who fell from a cliff in the South.

Greenstein said the relatively

high number of accidents this year could be partly attributed to the fact that there are fewer organized hikes and more tours by families and friends and inexperienced drivers of four-by-four vehicles.

The authority has a list of rules including checking the route in advance; being equipped properly with walking shoes, hats, and sufficient water (up to five liters per person in the current heat wave); taking a mobile phone and flashlight; having an up-to-date map; and sticking to the paths.

"It's those who seek shortcuts or think they know better who are most at risk," Greenstein said. "Also, the judgment of a person under pressure or suffering from heat and lack of water can be affected and lethal mistakes are made."

He said hikers must ensure the length of the route allows them to get back to their vehicles before dark. "If you get stuck out at night, do not try to carry on even if you think it's just a

couple more kilometers. Stay where you are. It's better to suffer from the cold than to fall from a cliff."

Greenstein said hikers should leave a note on their cars with information on the proposed route, number of hikers, and expected time of return.

Never hike on your own, he said.

Israel Radio's traffic watch department and the authority are running a joint toll-free information line during the holiday with details on recommended excursions, children's activities, performances, and the temperature at different sites.

The phone number is: 1-800-234567, between 9 a.m. and noon. The operator should be able to provide information in English.

There are also information posts at many major junctions.

Hikes on routes which pass through firing zones must be coordinated through the Education Ministry: 02-6222211.



## Wider representation

The Israel Women's Network has presented this poster, with the slogan 'Together in equality, together in friendship,' to the Jubilee Committee as a replacement for its official poster, which features only boys.

## Where to eat in Israel

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## Jerusalem team produces thermal imaging 'breakthrough'

By JUDY SIEGEL

A Jerusalem College of Technology (JCT) team has produced a "breakthrough" in thermal imaging, developing a way for sensors to operate at temperatures 30 degrees to 40 degrees Celsius higher than existing substances, which function only below the temperature at which air liquefies (-220 degrees C).

This, says lead physicist Dr. Shmuel Borenstein, will "revolutionize" commercial applications of thermal imaging - from

detecting clogged coronary arteries to better mining exploration - as well as improved night vision for military purposes.

Borenstein has adapted new materials called quantum well structures based on the compounds gallium aluminum arsenide and helium arsenide.

These materials have been known, for a decade, he said yesterday, but their quality has been low. Developing a process that is patent pending, the JCT team made the compounds functional

at higher temperatures, thus tripling or quadrupling their heat sensitivity.

Borenstein would not disclose how this was accomplished, but at an international conference on semi-conductors that will be held under Science Ministry sponsorship in Jerusalem in August, he will provide more details.

By the end of this year, Borenstein hopes to produce a working prototype. The advantages, he explained, are that the material becomes easy to process, accessible, and uniform, and the cost is significantly lower than other compounds used for thermal imaging, such as mercury cadmium telluride.

"We can also prepare materials that will be sensitive to infrared radiation at any wavelength, and can make them sensitive to two different wavelengths simultaneously - so you can have a precise measurement of the temperature you're looking at."

Among the many civilian applications are locating clogged sections of coronary arteries; blood vessels with normal flow are hotter than those whose circulation is blocked, and the difference can be picked up with thermal imaging sensors.

It could also be used to identify tumors that are hotter than the surrounding tissue.

Thermal imaging equipment can be installed on plane or a satellite to detect different rates of soil cooling and thereby identify underground precious metals for mining.

In electronics, improved thermal sensors can be used non-invasively to detect hotter short circuits and leaks in electrical grids. The IDF is supporting the research, which could be applied for improved night-vision equipment.

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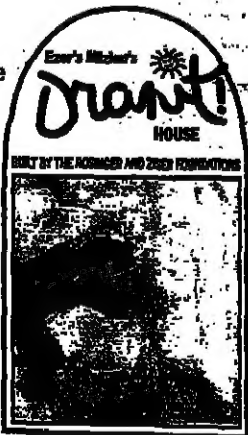
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## Talks held on Akaba airport

By HAIM SHAPIRO

An Israeli negotiating team led by Transport Ministry Director-General Nahum Langenthal met yesterday with their Jordanian counterparts to discuss construction of the Israeli terminal at the planned Israeli-Jordanian airport for Akaba and Eilat.

Transport Ministry spokesman Avner On said yesterday that Israel wants the airport's Israeli terminal to be built at Ein Evrona, even though the site is 10 km. north of the Akaba airfield, where the joint airport is to be located.

Passengers would thus be taken from the plane by bus to the Israeli terminal, where they would pass through customs and border controls, and then proceed to Eilat.

According to On, locating the terminal at Ein Evrona could help further develop the site, and thus encourage Eilat's expansion northward.

"In any case the passengers now have to travel 40 kilometers," On said, referring to the fact that international flights to Eilat now land at the Uvda Military Airfield, 40 km. north of the Red Sea port.

In addition to Langenthal, the Israeli negotiating team included representatives of the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry.

## ACRI: Let detainees select lawyers

By BATCHEVA TSUR

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel has called on Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi and Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to allow administrative detainees with foreign citizenship to choose their lawyers freely.

In a letter to the two yesterday, ACRI lawyer Dan Yakir said that detainees who are not Israeli citizens or residents, or citizens of the territories, are limited in their choice of lawyers.

Under the Emergency Powers Order (Detentions), they are obliged to choose from a list of lawyers who have special security clearance, he said, and this constitutes an infringement of their basic right to choose legal representation.

The restriction contravenes prisoners' rights under the Basic Law: Human Dignity and Freedom. Yakir said. This right is extremely important for a person who is under administrative detention, where his freedom has already been severely limited, he adds.

If there is any justification to limit the choice of such a detainee, it should be done on an individual basis, he said, noting that the law grants the defense minister the authority, in certain cases, to limit the choice.



Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert pays for several bars of scented soap that he purchased at yesterday's Jerusalem Post Pessah Handicrafts Fair as Jerusalem Post Funds director Beverlee Black (left) looks on.

## Crowds flock to 'Post' fair

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

The clock had barely struck 12 before crowds descended on the annual Jerusalem Post Pessah Handicrafts Fair, which was held this year in Jerusalem at the Bible Lands Museum, providing a cultural bonus - and air conditioning - for those who attended.

"It's hot. People don't want to be outside," Jerusalem Post Funds director Beverlee Black said. Revenues from the fair benefit the three charity funds.

Artists and craftspeople from around the country manned some 80 stands. Twenty other applicants were turned away for lack of space.

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, who opened the fair, paid the entry fee, toured the stands and bought several bars of scented soap. He said that he was very happy to support The Jerusalem Post Funds and through them the State of Israel.

The Jerusalem Post Funds evolved from The Jerusalem Post Toy Fund, which was founded in 1948 by the late Helen Rossi, who remained its director (and that of The Forsake Me Not Fund, which she established much later), for over 40 years.

The annual handicrafts fairs were introduced by Black as an additional source of income, when the massive immigration from the former

Soviet Union created greater needs.

This year's fair included such personalized items as astrological paperweights and initial bookmarks. It also featured Judaica in pottery, ivory, tapestry, embroidery, velvet, silk, silver and other metals, glass and plastic.

In the non-Judaica lines anyone who bought any of Maly Cohen's hand-printed silks did well, because Cohen had not yet caught up with the new rate of exchange and her shekel prices fell short of yesterday's dollar values.

Reaction to the fair was largely positive. "It looks like a huge success," said Jerusalemite Rolinda and Joe Schouwald. "But it's too crowded."

## New test could lead to early detection of cancers

WASHINGTON (AP) - A highly sensitive new blood test could help doctors find tumors sooner and improve monitoring of treatment, researchers say.

"The idea is to detect cancers earlier, when they're more treatable," said Dr. Jonathan Uhr of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. "How much earlier a tumor might be discovered isn't known yet."

But Dr. Emiliano Racila, one of his coresearchers, noted that some breast cancers can grow for years before becoming large enough to be detected by mammography.

The new test, which uses magnets to concentrate the cancer cells from blood and lasers to observe them, is reported in a paper in Monday's issue of *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The test has been used on patients with breast and prostate cancer. Tests on other tumors are planned.

Dr. Carleton Stewart of Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, New York, who did not participate in the research, termed the results extremely positive. He said simi-

lar research is under way at his hospital with results much like those reported by Uhr.

"It is not only a means of early detection and monitoring, but it can have a significant impact on treatment plans for the patient. If one knows that the patient has circulating (cancer) cells, they may require a different kind of treatment than one who doesn't," he explained.

While results of the new test have been encouraging, Uhr cautioned that a year or two of further study is needed to determine if the test will help physicians deal with individual patients.

Doctors have long known that tumors shed cells into the bloodstream, but it takes many such cells to be detected.

The new test lets doctors detect a single cancer cell in a small blood sample.

Tiny iron particles coated with an enzyme that attaches itself to cancer cells are placed in the blood sample. Magnets are then used to concentrate the cancer cells, which can then be studied. The test locates epithelial cells,

a type of cell that forms the skin, glands and other tissues but is rarely present in the bloodstream.

Breast and prostate cancers tend to grow slowly, but shed these cells from their early development, Racila explained.

While a breast tumor might need 100 million cells before it could be found in a mammogram, a tumor of 1 million cells could shed enough epithelial cells into the blood to be detected, Racila said.

The researchers found that blood samples from 13 healthy people averaged just 1.5 epithelial cells per sample. By comparison, 14 patients with breast cancer that had not spread averaged 15.9 epithelial cells; five with cancer that had spread locally averaged 47.4 cells; and 11 patients whose cancer had spread to other parts of the body averaged 122 cells.

Besides offering the hope of earlier detection for these cancers, Uhr said the researchers want to see if the test works for cancers of the colon and intestinal tract, which are harder to detect with traditional methods.

## Water in Lake Kinneret rises

By DAVID RUDGE

The Kinneret is continuing to rise, despite the heat wave and ongoing pumping into the National Water Carrier.

Yitzhak Gal, head of information at the Lake Kinneret Authority, said there is still a strong flow from the Jordan and other streams into the lake.

"I'm going to take a chance and predict that even without further substantial rainfall, the level of water is likely to continue to rise for the next 20 days or so at the rate of around one centimeter a day," he said.

The water level yesterday stood at 210.65 meters below sea level, only 1.75 m. from maximum.

The red-line mark, the level

beyond which the lake is not allowed to drop for fear of causing irreparable damage to its ecosystem and water quality, is 213 m. below sea level.

The rise is also good news for those who have been flocking to the Kinneret during Pessah and the tens of thousands who are expected to visit during the summer.

"The lower the level, the farther the walk from the shore to the water's edge and farther still until it is deep enough for a swim."

A very low level, as happened at the end of the summer of 1991, also causes problems for fishermen and owners of the tourist boats, because jetties have to be extended and sometimes harbors dredged to prevent the boats

touching bottom.

The late winter rains have ensured that this year's water level will be able to continue pumping at approximately the same monthly rate as usual. If any cuts in pumping have to be made, they will be implemented around October.

"The rain this winter was dispersed throughout the country, which might not have been so good for Lake Kinneret and other reservoirs, but was certainly good for agriculture and the underground water table," said Gal.

Mekorot officials noted that the country's two other main water resources, the Yarkon Tanninim underground reservoir and the giant coastal aquifer, are in a good state after the winter rains.



Pilgrimage to the Jordan

A Russian Orthodox pilgrim gives a thumbs up as he pulls himself out of the Jordan River following a baptism ceremony yesterday.

(AP)

## WATER

Continued from Page 1

Mekorot managed to maintain a trickle of water to the larger towns, but some communities had no water whatsoever. The regional council and the IDF trucked water to the worst-hit areas.

Azulai said the first priority was to repair the damage, refill the pipeline and supply water to domestic consumers, leaving industry and agriculture for later.

Despite the efforts of Mekorot workmen, supplies were not

restored until about 5 p.m. - some 15 hours after the break was discovered.

Thousands of chickens died of dehydration. Farmers complained that some crops had also been lost.

Altogether, the damage to agriculture, industry, and the direct costs of repairing the pipeline and mobilizing emergency crews to distribute water was estimated at millions of shekels.

Mekorot officials asked police to increase patrols near its installations. But they admitted that it is impossible to station a guard at every facility in the country.

Itim adds:

A record amount of water - 1,250,000 cu.m. - was used yesterday. 50,000 cu.m. more than the previous record, set Monday.

Electricity consumption has also climbed drastically over the past few days, hitting over 4,900 megawatts, though this is far from last year's record of some 5,800 megawatts.

But Israel Electric Corporation officials noted that since most factories and other businesses are closed for Pessah, this week's consumption is setting records for home use, primarily for air conditioning.

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## School psychologists protest low wages

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Parents waiting to find out if their child has been found mature enough to go from kindergarten to first grade, or about placement in special education programs or boarding schools, will have to wait longer, due to sanctions scheduled for next week by psychologists providing school psychology services.

The psychologists, who are complaining that they've been grossly underpaid over the years, plan to refrain from doing any kind of psychological testing, and will not participate in meetings of the local committees that assign pupils to special frameworks.

This is to be their opening step in their campaign for higher wages and a review of the system used by the Treasury to set those wages.

Yaela Guday, chairman of the national committee of the directors of municipal psychological services, said the Treasury has refused to include the school psychologists in the same arbitration talks being conducted regarding clinical psychologists, who struck last year.

She added that Treasury officials had admitted the school psychologists were underpaid, but were not prepared to do anything

about it. A Finance Ministry spokesman was unavailable to comment.

Guday said the basis for setting the psychologists' wages has not been reevaluated since 1979, "but our responsibilities have changed, with more and more added," the latest one being crisis intervention.

Guday explained that school psychologists were called to intervene immediately during such tragedies such as the bombings in Jerusalem or Tel Aviv, or the shooting last year at Naharayim.

She noted that psychologists must hold at least a master's degree, and must work under supervision for years before they are tested and licensed. A psychologist with five years' experience working 20 weekly classroom hours is paid some NIS 2,500 a month gross, she said. A more senior school psychologist with 15 years' seniority earns "about NIS 4,000 gross."

A supervisor of school psychologists with 15 years' experience said that last year he took home NIS 1,500 for a half-time job.

"I've been working in school psychology for 15 years and have been chronically underpaid for years," he said. "Our work is taken seriously, but in this country, only power matters," he said.



## Let the fat lady sing

The trouble with the English is they won't allow us Irish to be British," said the Ulster Unionist lady at the cocktail party. She could have added "now that we're all Europeans."

The absurdity of nationalistic conflicts continues to defy logic. It used to be said in Northern Ireland that a Protestant could recognize a Catholic before he opened his mouth — something about different body language — in a province that has no discernible racial differences, or even accents, across the political divide.

The Irish peace accords have everyone asking "how can we apply this success to Yugoslavia, Cyprus, Taiwan, wherever?" King Hussein said it brings hope to the Middle East. The funny thing is, that's what Irish nationalists were saying about the Oslo accords — "That's what we need, an Irish Oslo process."

The show's not over till the fat lady stops the silly comments over cocktails.

But nobody wants to be a party pooper or a Cassandra wailing outside the window of opportunity. Everyone quite sensibly is saying that the road to Ireland's new constitution is as long and tricky as was the road to the old one.

Groundhog day  
Nonetheless, they are confident the parties can sell the 67 pages of the Mitchell accords to supporters as diverse as a diehard republican farmer in Kerry, or a Unionist queen bee at a Belfast cocktail party, in the first ever all-Ireland referendum.

To find some hard-nosed opinion, where else to turn but to the flinty bones of business, though a few days after a peace agreement is a little premature for economic analysis. Yes, it's that old "wait-and-see" or, in that most irritating of TV stand-up clichés, "it remains to be seen..." (Doesn't everything?)

Business in Northern Ireland responded well to the 1994 IRA ceasefire, only to have its plans routed by a return to violence. The airy forecasts of economic Nirvana had been given substance by a May '95 trade and investment conference in Washington, sponsored by Bill Clinton himself — shades of Casablanca long forgotten.

So it will be sometime — certainly not before the referendum results are in — before the business groundhogs will be examining their shadows to see if the winter of discontent has passed.

Tiger makeover  
The first boost to Northern Ireland, of course, would come from an image makeover. The province has been the long forgotten Cinderella of tourism,

while the republic has been the darling of European and American travel agents. For decades, one of the psychological strengths of Northern Ireland in maintaining its union with Britain was the undoubted attraction of the British welfare state and heavy industries.

As the new republic to the south struggled to achieve viability in a losing battle with mass emigration, the northerners gloated and told their own disident nationalists if they liked the republic so much, they should go there and try living on its unemployment benefits.

In a classic case of he who laughs last, the republic proved that a hungry hunt can lead to places that gloating over fading laurels never can. Northern Ireland woke up in the '90s to its own image of a bleak war zone living on British handouts. In the south, Celtic tigers were gambling in spruced-up green pastures, feeding on the riches of European integration, a brilliantly managed tourism industry, advanced high-tech education and bottomless foreign investment. Now who was it again who wanted a piece of that?

Though no one is saying it out loud before the referendums, it is clear that the Mitchell accords herald the eclipse of the Northern Ireland Unionists and point to a historically inevitable weaving of the two sides of Ireland into one tapestry.

Wrong song  
In that prospect is their greatest promise and their greatest danger. The danger is that the extremists may seek to bomb these dangerous (to them) historic agreements into history.

The promise is that the Unionists will gradually see that by bringing their traditions into an all-Ireland context, they will not only be removing the cultural barbed wire, but will be creating a country they might even want to share with the rest of the Irish.

Meanwhile, attracting inward investment should be the main economic task and, as with Israel, the loyalty of a big diaspora is a huge bonus, which only a few small nations (like Israel) enjoy. Even now the Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board is attracting a steady trickle of around 10 significant projects each year. With permanent peace and a boosted tourist flow, that trickle could become a flood, not to rival but to share with the investment in the republic.

All we need now is for that Ulster Unionist lady at the cocktail party to change her pet theme song to:

"The good thing about the English is they persuaded us Irish we'd be better off being Irish."

This is the second of three columns on the Irish peace accords.

### Column One



Thomas O'Dwyer

# Mending fences is hard to do

Hardline-moderate struggles in Teheran threaten to abort a budding US-Iran rapprochement

By ROBIN WRIGHT

WASHINGTON — Three months after the first diplomatic opening in a generation between the US and Iran, the Clinton administration is now threatened by a fierce power struggle between Mohammad Khatami, the reformist Iranian president, and hard-line conservatives in his country.

The effect of the escalating political battle was felt in Washington last week as the White House scrambled to alone for the clumsy way US Immigration and Naturalization Service officials handled a visiting Iranian wrestling team's entry into the country.

To make amends and signal its support for people-to-people diplomacy, the White House tried to arrange for the wrestlers to meet with Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, who speaks Persian and did a Peace Corps stint in Iran. But the goodwill gesture was rejected at the last minute because of reluctance by Iranian officials to approve direct contacts in the Islamic Republic's current political environment, Iranian and US sources said.

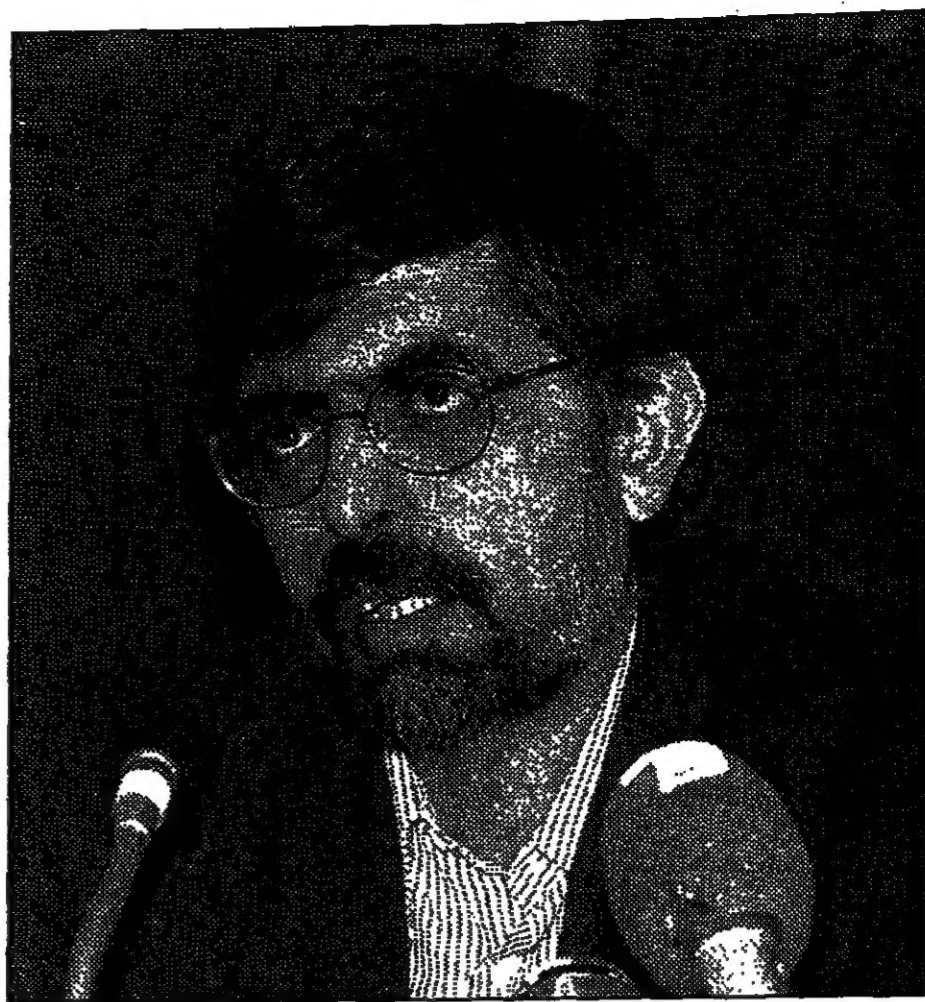
In Iran, with the arrest Saturday of Gholamhossein Karbaschi, the mayor of Teheran and his chief political ally, Khatami is in the most perilous position since his election in May. Karbaschi, a powerful civic leader and innovative reformer who has transformed the capital since his appointment in 1989, is accused of misappropriating public funds.

But the real motive behind the arrest appears to be attempts by conservatives, who control Iran's judiciary, to destabilize Khatami's power base.

"The arrest of the mayor is the biggest challenge Khatami has faced," a senior Clinton administration official said. "His call for a dialogue with the West is now at stake." Teheran's political rivalries, which have simmered since Khatami's inauguration in August, have begun to boil in recent weeks. Iranian sources link Karbaschi's arrest with the president's attempt to reform the judiciary, one of the last bastions of hard-liners.

Khatami has replaced many hard-liners, including the ministers of intelligence and defense, the Revolutionary Guards commander and dozens of lower officials associated with militant domestic practices and anti-Western positions. The judiciary was next.

Khatami's government is rallying behind



Teheran Mayor Gholamhossein Karbaschi's arrest, widely seen as a hardliner's broadside to President Khatami, has brought into the open the widening rift between fundamentalists and pragmatists.

Karbaschi. Interior Minister Abdollah Nouri on Tuesday expressed "doubts" about the judiciary's "competency," while Culture and Islamic Guidance Minister Ataollah Mohajerani said the cabinet, which was not informed of the arrest, was "shocked and saddened." He warned of serious "damage" to "public administration."

Faezeh Hashemi, a member of Parliament and daughter of former President Hashemi Rafsanjani, blasted the judiciary for "suspect and arbitrary" behavior.

Karbaschi is now scheduled to stand trial in three weeks, although Khatami is said to

be working hard behind the scenes to win his freedom. The president appealed Monday directly to Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has final say in all government actions.

But the power struggle ultimately pits Khatami against Khamenei, another former president who is widely considered to be the ranking conservative. Khamenei has come under growing criticism from several segments of society, including Iran's dominant young people, who question his credentials for the job and the unlimited power of his post.

Karbaschi's fate will offer the strongest indication to date as to whether Khatami can press ahead with domestic reforms and foreign policy initiatives. For the US, the danger is that the power struggle may claim Khatami's overtone to the American people, made in January — when he called for people-to-people exchanges to "break the wall of mistrust." The reaction to the Clinton administration's invitation to the wrestling team already shows that Iran's government "is not comfortable taking decisions that might prove controversial," the senior US official said. "Iranians are being very careful and watching how the power struggle comes out. The wrestlers are part of it."

US officials had invited the Iranian team, whose members were fingerprinted and photographed when they arrived April 1 for the World Cup competition, on a special tour of the Smithsonian Institution's Air and Space Museum, hosted by Shalala. When bookings for the team's early Wednesday departure could not be changed, the State Department tried to set up a meeting at Reagan National Airport. The 18-member delegation expressed interest in the meeting, but Iranian officials decided late Tuesday to turn down the offer.

Along with the FBI and the INS, the State Department next week will begin reviewing the law that requires Iranians to be fingerprinted on entry — a rule that applies to civilians, but not to officials who come to the United Nations, World Bank or other US-based international institutions. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said Monday that the rules might have to change if they undercut cultural exchanges.

But the State Department also is to release this month its annual global terrorism survey, which, according to US counterterrorism officials, will identify Iran as the world's top sponsor of state terrorism, though it does take note of the "conciliatory" statements made by Khatami early this year. The report links Tehran with 13 political assassinations in 1997, mainly of opposition leaders in the People's Mojahadeen and the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iran, both based in northern Iraq. Most but not all predate Khatami's inauguration in August.

A UN report issued last week praised Iran for an "incontestable" improvement in human rights under Khatami. It came down hard on Teheran, though, for "unabated" use of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. (Los Angeles Times)

## Embattled Paula Jones weighs the future

By LOIS ROMANO

Paula Jones has spent the past week as she has spent much of the past four years: secluded in her modest one-bedroom apartment in Long Beach, Calif., taking care of her young sons, watching the news and speaking only to a few friends and advisers. Only these days, she has also been trying to decide whether she should appeal a federal judge's ruling that her sexual misconduct case against President Clinton is without merit.

After four years of ups and downs, Jones' roller-coaster ride has hit bottom. US District Judge Susan Webber Wright, in an unexpected and dramatic ruling, threw out her lawsuit. Five days later, Jones' husband, Stephen, the sole source of support for her and her two children, was abruptly fired as a ticket agent for Northwest Airlines.

One way or another, Jones, 31, is about to exit center stage after setting in motion a series of events that have threatened to bring down the Clinton presidency. Even if she successfully appeals Wright's April 1 ruling, the trial likely would occur after Clinton leaves office, greatly diminishing public interest in her.

Despite the thousands of pages of documents filed on Jones' behalf, and the media microscope she has been under since first leveling her accusations in 1994, Jones leaves the spotlight as she entered: an enigmatic figure that polls show an overwhelming number of Americans view unfavorably.

Even now, Jones' motives remain murky, her own identity overshadowed by an incendiary spokeswoman and the high-profile conservative legal organization financing her suit. Mostly, there are contradictions: Her case

has become a rallying cry for the right, yet her advisers portray her as naively apolitical. She said an apology from the president was her only goal, yet she split with her previous lawyers over divvying up the money in a settlement offer.

Her story about Clinton's unwanted overture in 1991 has become more inflammatory in the retelling: the hand on the leg, for example, became two hands "running up my culottes." Her friends say she struggles to make ends meet, yet recent reports have suggested that she has control of a legal defense fund that she dips into for her personal use. And she hardly seemed needy after her suit was dismissed when she was photographed wearing fashionable spandex and speeding away from her beach-side condo in her big Mercedes.

Still, dozens of interviews with lawyers, friends and advisers

paint a portrait of a woman desperately trying to raise two preschool age sons in the middle of the mammoth political and legal war, a woman who had resigned herself to a lonely and tense existence in order to tell her story to a jury in Little Rock.

After Wright's ruling, the people closest to Jones thought she had lost her stomach for the fight, especially when her husband was fired.

Distraught and disheartened, Jones told one friend she didn't see how she could put her life on hold any longer with a 5-year-old starting school later this year. She confided to others that she desperately wanted to move back to Arkansas to be near her family, but her husband, also an aspiring actor, was not ready.

Jones declined a request for an interview. But in recent days, sources familiar with her thinking say she has become convinced

that she cannot achieve closure and move forward with her life unless she appeals Wright's ruling to the 8th US Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis. This will likely happen late this week.

"She believes the truth is on her side," said a girlfriend who speaks to Jones regularly, but asked that her name not be used. "She doesn't want it to end this way." Regardless of the outcome, Jones has indisputably had a historic impact on the Clinton presidency.

The sensational charges leveled by this former Arkansas state employee have dogged the president for four years, led to lurid disclosures about his personal life and ignited a separate, ongoing federal investigation into Clinton's alleged Oval Office escapades and the steps he might have taken to cover them up.

See PAULA, Page 8

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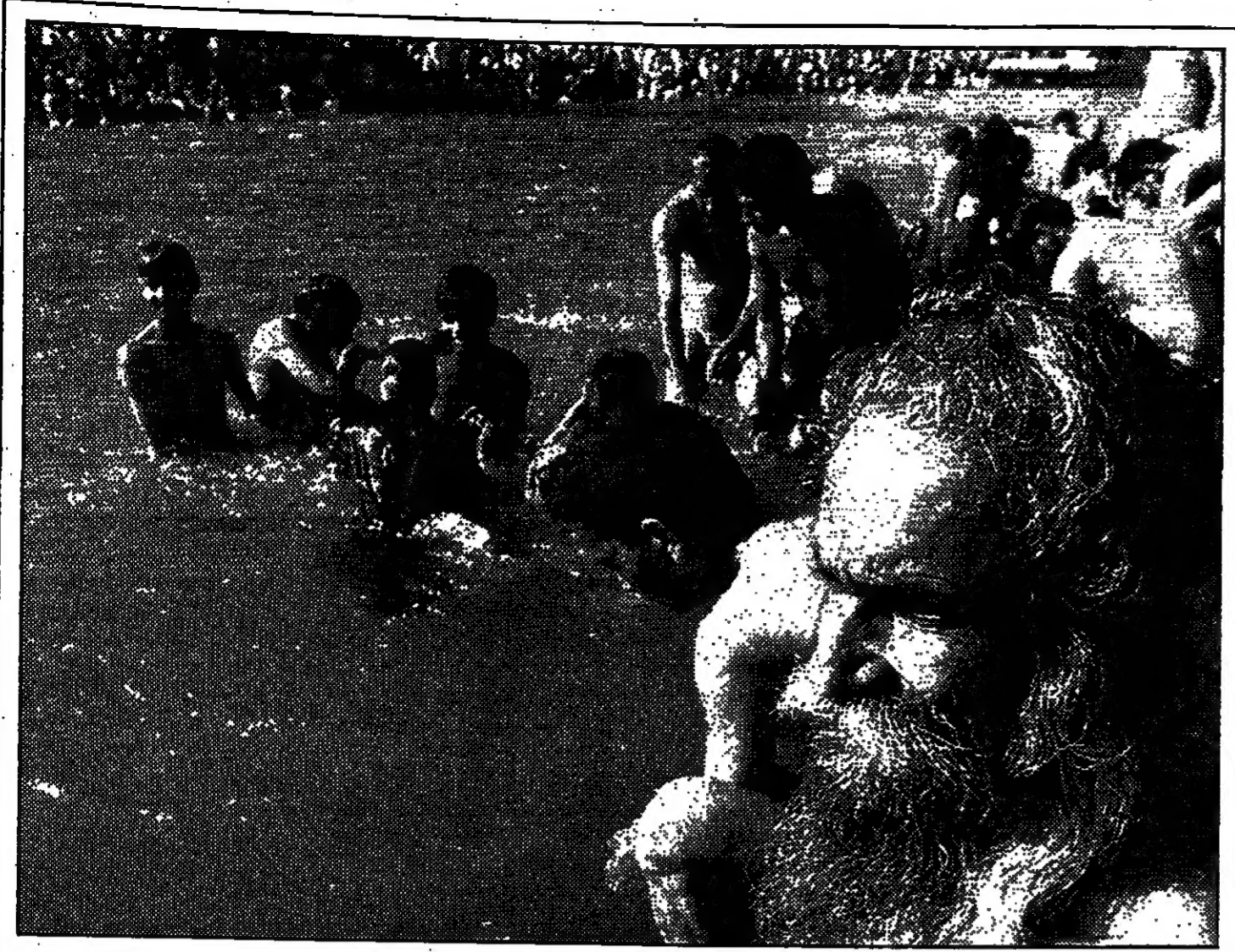
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**Ritual bathing**  
Millions of Hindus gather on the shores of the river Ganges during the Kumbh Mela festival in Haridwar, India yesterday. The festival is considered to be the largest religious gathering in the world. (AP)

## N. Ireland Unionists object to Clinton visit

BELFAST (Reuters) — Northern Ireland's pro-British politicians yesterday urged US President Bill Clinton not to come to the province ahead of a referendum on its peace accord, saying a visit could be seen as interference.

"I think he should put off his visit until later in the year, until the thing has settled down," Reg Empey, a member of the Ulster Unionist Party's negotiating team, said. "It might be misunderstood if he was to directly involve himself in an electoral process here."

Clinton has offered to visit Northern Ireland before the May 22 vote, but left the decision up to the prime ministers of Britain and Ireland and others involved in the deal.

"I don't want to do something to undermine the chances of success. I'm not a handicap. I want to be encouraging it," Clinton said after meeting peace talks chairman George Mitchell, a former US senator.

Only four out of 10 parliamentarians in Empey's party, the province's biggest, have declared support for the accord ahead of a vote by its 300-member council on Saturday. Some party members fear the deal will weaken centuries-old ties with Britain and approval is by no means guaranteed.

More extreme supporters of British rule such as the

Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), which stayed out of the talks, plan to launch a campaign for a no vote in the referendum. The DUP loathed Washington's decision to grant Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams a visa in a bid to boost the peace process and it dismissed Clinton's role as "far too biased."

"The people of Northern Ireland are more than capable of making up their own minds about the deal. Clinton's suggested visit would clearly be aimed and used as a propaganda drive for a yes vote," Nigel Dodds of the DUP said.

His statement, headed "No thank you Mr. President!" accused the Clinton administration of indulging in "constant elevation" of Adams in the US.

However, most political parties in the province are expected to join Prime Minister Tony Blair and Irish leader Bertie Ahern in seeking a yes vote in the referendum.

A chilling sign of the violence that Mitchell has said could mar the run-up to the referendum emerged yesterday. A splinter group of gunmen called the Irish National Liberation Army said it would fight on against "British forces and those who target the nationalist working class."

The main guerrilla groups have joined the truce, including the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which declared a truce in July.

Loyalist extremist splinter groups who contributed to a death toll of more than 3,200 people in 30 years of violence are also seen as unlikely to silence their guns.

But John Hume, the moderate nationalist seen as the driving force behind the peace process, said the vast bulk of Protestants and Catholics want peace. "By working together on the common ground through shared institutions, we will provide the healing process out of which will evolve a new north and a new Ireland," he told the *Irish News*.

The deal foresees the creation of all-Ireland institutions pursuing common goals with the republic. It also paves the way for the early release from British and Irish jails of prisoners who took part in three decades of conflict over the fate of British rule in the north. About a dozen IRA prisoners held in Ireland are expected to be freed this week, government sources in Dublin said.

The move was aimed at helping ensure continued support from the IRA's political ally Sinn Féin, whose executive committee is expected to decide its strategy before the party's annual conference in Dublin at the weekend. Sinn Féin has signaled it will fight elections to the assembly in June despite opposition in its ranks to taking seats in an institution within Britain's jurisdiction.

## Incoming Russian premier admits crime remains high

**By MITCHELL LANDSBERG**

MOSCOW (AP) — Last fall, President Boris Yeltsin beamed at his interior minister, the country's top cop, and thanked him for a sharp downturn in crime.

"One can say with confidence that people feel safer now than they did two or three years ago," Yeltsin said then, at a news conference.

Yesterday, in an extraordinary admission, Prime Minister-designate Sergei Kiriyenko conceded there was no drop in crime. He accused police of telling "shameless lies" to mask their failure to stem Russia's headlong dive into lawlessness.

It was a remarkable moment in more ways than one. Most obviously, it reflected a rare admission that Russia may be losing the battle against crime — something the

government's opponents and foreign observers have been warning about for a long time.

It also seemed to give Kiriyenko, a 35-year-old banker and martial arts buff, a chance to flex some muscles. The opposition has been portraying him as an inexperienced lightweight who lacks the mettle to run a government.

Russian crime statistics have always been suspect, but over the past five years, they have unmistakably showed a sharp increase in crime — something obvious to any Russian newspaper reader or television viewer.

In particular, a wave of contract killings, kidnappings and other gang violence has hinted at the breadth of mob influence in Russian society. Other crimes such as robberies, muggings and break-ins seemed to have hit communities across the land.

Still, when Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov said last year that crime was subsiding, few people questioned the news, and Yeltsin proudly congratulated him.

Kulikov was among the ministers sacked in Yeltsin's mass firing of his cabinet last month, and is not expected to return.

Last week, a prosecutor told a presidential commission on human rights that the police had vastly under-reported crimes, especially serious ones, and that police officers themselves were frequently running afoul of the law. He recounted cases of torture, coercion and rape by police.

Against that backdrop, Kiriyenko held a teleconference yesterday with top law enforcement officials. In blunt language, he told them that crime was becoming a threat to national security, according to the Interfax news agency.

## Yeltsin wins Duma Speaker's backing for PM

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin moved a step closer to securing parliamentary approval for his controversial choice of prime minister yesterday by winning the backing of the lower house speaker.

"We must confirm him," Gennady Seleznyov, a Communist, told a news conference after meeting Yeltsin over the State Duma's rejection of 35-year-old ex-banker Sergei Kiriyenko in a first vote last Friday. "The Duma's fate is 1,000 times more important to me than the fate of Kiriyenko."

His comments made clear he believed it wiser for the Duma to accept a flawed prime minister rather than trigger its own automatic dissolution and an early election by rejecting him three times.

Seleznyov's appeal was a breakthrough for Yeltsin, who has been struggling to win approval for Kiriyenko since he sacked the previous government on March 23 to try to revitalize economic reforms. But victory is still not assured. The Communist Party and its main allies in the Duma have vowed to oppose

Kiriyenko again in Friday's second vote, meaning a third, decisive vote could be required.

The Communists say Kiriyenko is too inexperienced to be Yeltsin's constitutional No. 2, but Yeltsin says he will name no alternate candidate, and Seleznyov said the president had made clear he was ready to disband the Duma if necessary. Seleznyov insisted that he regarded backing Kiriyenko as the lesser of two evils.

"The scales are not balanced. On one side there is Kiriyenko and on the other is the whole legislative assembly, because after the Duma's dissolution the upper chamber would in practice also cease to work," he said.

Promising Kiriyenko a rough ride even if he is approved, he said: "Unlike the Duma, which has immunity, the government has no immunity and we can raise the question of a no-confidence vote in it within a month."

Seleznyov said Yeltsin had instructed Kiriyenko to hold more consultations with Duma factions before Friday's vote.

It was not all good news for Yeltsin yesterday. The Duma's council decided to hold a debate today to discuss whether the president should present alternative candidates by Friday. The Duma will also consider asking the Constitutional Court whether Yeltsin had the right to offer the same candidate twice, and will discuss changing voting procedures to allow an open vote — a change which would complicate Kiriyenko's approval.

Seleznyov said he supported sticking to the system of secret voting. Under this system, it is easier for deputies to defy their party leaders without suffering any consequences.

Although some politicians say the Duma will eventually back Kiriyenko to avert its own dissolution, the acting premier faces a struggle to gather the 226 votes he needs for approval in the chamber. He mustered only 143 votes in the first vote, when he was opposed by 186 deputies. Most of the rest of the deputies in the 450-seat chamber were absent.

## Havel out of danger

INNSBRUCK (Reuters) — Czech President Vaclav Havel was very weak but out of danger after emergency surgery in an Austrian hospital yesterday, the Austrian news agency APA quoted a surgeon as saying.

It quoted Dr Ernst Bodner of Innsbruck's University Hospital as saying the former dissident playwright "had every chance of getting healthy again."

Earlier, Havel was rushed to the hospital while on vacation in Austria with a suspected perforation of the colon.

The 61-year-old president, who underwent surgery in December 1996 for lung cancer, left for an Easter vacation near Innsbruck, Austria, last week.

Spokesman Ladislav Spacek said Havel was in pain on Monday, and a doctor was summoned today. Havel was then taken to an Innsbruck hospital, Spacek said.

He added that Havel's personal physician, Dr. Ilya Kotik, was traveling to Innsbruck to tend to the president. A spokesman for the University Clinic in Innsbruck confirmed that Havel was admitted today, but gave no further details.

Havel had one-third of his right lung and a half-inch malignant tumor removed during his 1996 surgery for lung cancer. During that treatment, doctors had to perform a tracheotomy to help Havel breathe.

He was hospitalized in February for throat surgery to correct problems resulting from that tracheotomy.

Havel also spent two weeks in the hospital last November with pneumonia.

## US appeals court sides with siblings of art thief

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The brother and sister of a US soldier who sent home priceless German art stolen from the Nazis cannot be tried for selling the art, a federal appeals panel has ruled.

A three-judge panel of the 5th US Circuit Court of Appeals on Monday upheld a lower court ruling that said Jane Meador Cook, 64, Jack Meador, 78, and their lawyer were indicted one day too late. It said the statute of limitations had been properly interpreted in the case.

The federal prosecutor, Carol Johnson, said an appeal is unlikely. *The New York Times* reported

yesterday. But the siblings may still have to pay more than \$50 million in estate taxes, penalties, and interest, the *Times* reported.

In 1945, army Lt. Joe Meador was assigned to guard a mine where the Germans had hidden religious artifacts. The art dated back to the ninth century, and had been kept at the Quedlinburg cathedral for hundreds of years.

Meador apparently mailed several pieces of the collection to his Texas home. Among them was the "Samuel Gospels," a ninth-century manuscript written in gold, and the "Evangelistarius St. Wiperti," a 16th-century prayer

book.

When he died in 1980, his siblings inherited the treasures.

A Houston lawyer, John Stephen Torigian, negotiated the sale of the "Samuel Gospels" for nearly \$3 million in 1990 and was trying to sell the prayer book when their origins were revealed.

Germany demanded the return of the treasures, sparking an international debate.

The fight ended when the Meadors agreed to return the remaining works for a settlement that allowed them to keep about \$2.7 million from the sale of the manuscript.

## Riot police break up pro-mayor demonstration in Iran

**BY APHSH VALINEJAD**

TEHRAN (AP) — Riot police wielding batons yesterday broke up a protest by thousands of students demonstrating in support of Tehran's detained mayor.

Fistfights erupted between supporters of reformist Mayor Gholamhossein Karbaschi and his opponents outside Tehran University. Witnesses said about 30 protesters were arrested. Police

declined to comment on arrests.

About 300 riot police closed off streets near the university, where 4,000 students were protesting, and then charged the demonstrators. There were no serious injuries.

Also yesterday, judicial officials said Karbaschi's trial would begin in about two weeks. Karbaschi's arrest has turned into a showdown between supporters of moderate President Mohammad Khatami and his powerful hard-line opponents

inside Iran's Islamic government.

Prosecutors have accused Karbaschi of misappropriating public funds in a wide-ranging corruption scandal in the municipality. But moderates consider the mayor's arrest part of an effort by hard-liners to undermine Khatami's rule.

## Botha trial held up as lawyers discuss deal

**By PAUL HARRIS**

GEORGE, South Africa (AP) — Lawyers for former President P.W. Botha asked for a postponement of his trial yesterday to seek a deal that could result in him appearing before a commission investigating apartheid-era abuses.

Magistrate Victor Lugaju agreed to delay the trial so talks with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission could continue. If Botha's lawyers and the Truth Commission reach an agreement, Botha might testify in person before the panel, something he had vowed never to do.

Botha, 82, has pleaded innocent to charges of contempt for ignoring a subpoena to testify before the Truth Commission in a case that symbolizes the nation's lingering racial division.

If convicted, he could receive maximum penalties of two years in prison and an unspecified fine. Because of his ill health, a fine was considered the likely punishment.

The Truth Commission's chairman, Desmond Tutu, was

involved in the negotiations with Botha's lawyers, which dragged on into this afternoon.

"We have said that we do not seek to humiliate him, we do not seek to prosecute him," said Tutu, the retired Anglican archbishop who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his anti-apartheid activities.

"The important thing is that all we have wanted is to have Mr. P.W. Botha appear before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission," Tutu said.

More than four hours after the trial was postponed, Truth Commission spokesman John Allen indicated the talks would continue, saying, "We are not on the verge of moving out of our hotel" to return to the courthouse.

Shortly before the trial today, about 60 protesters who said they were from the South African Communist Party arrived at the courthouse. They danced and chanted behind a cordon of razor-edged wire as dozens of policemen looked on.

Earlier, a small band of whites, seven in all, stood quietly in sup-

port of Botha.

Botha's lawyer, Lappe Laubscher, began the trial by asking Lugaju for a temporary postponement to "investigate the possibility of resolving the differences between the parties." State prosecutor Bruce Morrison said he had no objection to a postponement "for a short while."

According to media reports, the deal would call for Botha to appear at a private Truth Commission hearing today in George, a southern coastal town near his retirement home in Wilderness. The Truth Commission would then ask for charges against Botha to be dropped.

By getting Botha to appear in person, even at a private hearing, the Truth Commission would achieve its goal of forcing a top apartheid leader to submit to its authority.

Many blacks are angry that top former apartheid leaders like Botha have avoided testimony, while popular black leaders such as Winnie Madikizela-Mandela had lengthy public hearings.

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## PAULA

Continued from Page 6

But all this may be of little consolation to a small-town girl who, her allies still contend, was never after money or fame, just an apology from Clinton for allegedly dropping his pants and asking her for sex at the Excelsior Hotel in Little Rock on May 8, 1991, when he was governor of Arkansas.

"People who think it's just about money don't understand that this woman was genuinely offended and insulted by his behavior. It was almost a point of pride," said an acquaintance of Jones who has been involved in the case. "All he had to do was say he was sorry and it would have been over." Her detractors snicker at the notion that her life was somehow damaged because of Clinton's overture, as has legally claimed, and suggest that, rather, it may have been enhanced by the sleek make-over, cross-country trips, celebrity and legal defense fund that followed her allegations. They point to recent reports that she received \$100,000 from direct mail fundraising and used some of it for personal expenses such as new clothes and boarding her dog at a kennel.

One knowledgeable source

close to Paula Jones said that, while she technically has control of her legal defense fund, all expenditures are discussed among her advisers. Less than \$10,000 from the fund was disbursed to Jones for personal expenditures related to the case, this source said, such as a home computer, business clothes for court and the kennel for her dog when she traveled to court. The remainder has been - and is being - used for such expenses as lawyers to handle a subpoena of the fund's records, a private investigator and administrative costs, said the source and Donovan Campbell, the Dallas-based lawyer who heads Jones's current legal team.

And her friends insist her life has been anything but enhanced. From the day she surfaced with her charges in 1994, she was effectively defined by her Democratic enemies as trailer park trash, a loose woman and a pawn of the right wing. Jones has been audited by the IRS; reporters knock at her elderly mother's door, and one of her sisters describes her as a liar and a hussy to anyone who will listen. And even if Jones eventually wins big damages, she owes her previous lawyers \$800,000.

"Is Paula really better off?" asked Campbell. "She has suffered three or four years of

vicious attack-dog tactics. Yes, she is certainly better known than she was four years ago, but a lot of people don't like her. She and we get hate mail and death threats. If this happened to your daughter, would you think she was better off because she was on the cover of Newsweek?"

"She can't live her life. She can't make friends," said Daniel DiCrisio, her hairdresser and a friend. "It's as simple as that." Despite the legal defense fund, her friends say that Jones has hardly any personal resources. She has been without transportation because the family has had one working car. The Mercedes, they stress, is 11 years old and just paid off, allowing the couple to repair another car broken down for two years.

Her husband Stephen was paid about \$40,000 a year at Northwest, said one friend. Now that he's been terminated after 16 years - for purportedly disregarding a posted notice about mandatory overtime, according to the airline - their plight is even more precarious.

"His wife's situation had nothing to do with" the dismissal, an airline spokesman said Friday. Stephen Jones said through a friend that he does not recall seeing the March 22 freeze-shift notice instructing employees to stay late and has filed a union

grievance. "I'm telling you she doesn't have anything," said an Arkansas girlfriend. "She uses the [fund] money for some expenses she would not ordinarily have. But she struggles like the rest of us day to day. They don't have money."

Jones has let it be known repeatedly that it was always an apology - not the money - that she wanted. Early in the case, she pledged to donate any proceeds from a favorable judgment to charity. And her camp suggested that last summer's \$700,000 settlement offer from Clinton, as well as the relationship with her previous lawyers, collapsed because the president was unwilling to issue an unequivocal apology.

But one source close to the previous attorneys - Joseph Cammarata and Gilbert K. Davis - said that while it is true money was irrelevant for Jones early in the case, her attitude changed when the tide seemed to be heading her way.

According to the source, discussions of the \$700,000 settlement offer quickly deteriorated into dickering about how the pot would be divided. Davis and Cammarata agreed to a one-third cut, considerably less than they believed their agreement called for. But in return they asked for

other means to recoup their losses, such as a percentage of any future book deals, or permission to write their own book when the case was over, according to the source. Jones refused.

"It was all about the money," said the source. The source also maintained that, at one point, it was the lawyers - not Jones - who were insisting on inclusion of a strong statement from the president redeeming her reputation. Jones's spokeswoman, Susan Carpenter-McMillan, whose lawyer husband negotiated with Davis and Cammarata, denies this account.

Ultimately, the deal unraveled, despite a plea to Jones from Judge Wright to settle. Upon withdrawing from the case last year, Cammarata and Davis filed an \$800,000 lien on any proceeds generated by way of judgment or settlement.

Cammarata and Davis have remained publicly supportive of Jones.

However, sources said the men were not happy when Carpenter-McMillan recently said on television that if Jones had accepted the \$700,000 offer last summer, she still would have owed \$100,000 to the lawyers.

"You would think, as the spokeswoman for Paula Jones, she would know the facts, yet she continues to spin with reckless

abandon," said Cammarata. Said Davis: "I didn't know what she was talking about. Paula would have had no bill to us if we had come to terms."

When asked to explain what she meant about the \$100,000 debt, Carpenter-McMillan said, "Only four people know about those negotiations" - not including herself - and declined to discuss it further.

One reason Jones seems destined to fade back into obscurity is that the public always viewed her harshly, even if polls suggested they believed much of her story. Women's groups were uncomfortably silent about her case. The revealing photos of her published in Penthouse, taken by a long-ago boyfriend, didn't help. Jones knew all this, say her friends, but believed perceptions would change when she had her turn on the witness stand. Still, upon the advice of friends, she softened her look, started wearing her hair straight and highlighted, wiped off the thick makeup, acquired new business clothes and was careful not to smoke in public.

Despite Democratic attempts to place her in the middle of a "vast right-wing conspiracy," her inner circle appears to be quite small and eclectic, mostly people Jones met in the past year who were not acquainted before the case. It's

unclear who has her ear at any given moment. The group includes her Dallas-based legal team, led by Campbell; wealthy Pittsburgh businessman Bernard Werner, who set up her Web page to raise money because he believed "there was nothing out there supporting her"; hairdresser DiCrisio, who said he met Jones when she and Carpenter-McMillan "came in for a perm and I told Paula, 'Your look is very '80s.'"; her husband, and longtime friends Debra Ballentine and Pam Blackard, witnesses in the case.

Jones's closest friends insist she is completely apolitical, and both sets of attorneys back this up. In fact, sources say the first time she ever voted was in 1992, to cast her ballot for Vice President George Bush; or more accurately, against Bill Clinton.

Cammarata and Davis, who represented Jones throughout 90 percent of the case, said they never discussed politics with her. Jones's initial announcement of the case at a conservative conference was a result of advice and bad judgment, not any type of a political statement, say her friends and lawyers. And they contend that she agreed to accept the conservative Rutherford Institute's offer to bankroll the case as a matter of expediency, not ideology. (Washington Post)

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# Larry Hagman's true colors

By DOUGLAS J. ROWE

Larry Hagman walks into Universal Pictures offices in New York talking about a front-page story on liver transplant policy.

"I'm always interested in what they're doing," says the 66-year-old actor, whose interest in the topic in that morning's paper is understandable. Come August, he'll have had his new liver three years.

He can rattle off the statistics: 7,000 people waiting while there are barely 4,000 donors at any given time. And he can recall his own wait 36 days.

"I was very lucky," he says. He was very ill, too. Doctors had given him less than two months to live, and once surgeons opened him up they figured it was closer to two weeks.

Now the man who lived through the most-watched shooting in TV history is not only surviving in real life, he's thriving.

Amid the mixed reviews of *Primary Colors*, Hagman has grabbed glowing notices for his small role as a challenger to the Clintonesque character played by John Travolta.

Admittedly feeling transformed because of his second chance at life, Hagman is so happy-go-lucky these days that he even laughs off the backhanded way many of those plaudits were delivered. The words "surprise" and "surprisingly" often were used in describing his performance.

For anyone who wants to connect the dots between his Gov. Fred Pickens and a real-life inspiration (Ross Perot and former Florida Gov. Lawton Chiles have been the guesses), Hagman says forget it. "I read the gist of the guy and just formed my own character," he comments.

Hagman has had various brushes with the presidency over the years — Oliver Stone's *Nixon*; the forgettable 1978 made-for-TV movie *The President's Mistress*; and the 1964 thriller *Fall-Back*, in which he played a translator for the president's tense hotline discussions with Moscow.

And he's been in uniform a lot, even in real life. He went to military school for four years and served in the Air Force another four (while stationed in England he met his wife, Maj. and married her in 1954). Then, of course, he played astro-

naut Major Nelson on the NBC sitcom *I Dream of Jeannie* for five years (1965-70), as well as an officer in films like *The Eagle Has Landed*.

So he hasn't had to go too deep into the wardrobe department for many of his roles. Even for his most famous one — J.R. in *Dallas*, which ran on CBS from 1978 to '91 — he just had to grab some Texas-flavored businessman's garb, a Stetson and cowboy boots.

His success on television — along with short memories — may help explain why reviewers were "surprised" by Hagman's latest outing. Does anyone remember the interesting, vulnerable son of Art Carney in *Harry and Tonto* in 1974? Or a performance in *The Group* that was overwhelmingly praised by critics in 1966?

Because of his health problems, the 6-foot-1-inch (1.85-meter) Hagman — who looks strapping and strong now — can sound like Mr. Perspective: "I got a look over the edge; you know, I was right there." And he can sound truly unfazed by any lack of appreciation of his acting range: "I don't care. It doesn't matter to me."

The son of the late Broadway and film musical-comedy legend Mary Martin, Hagman looks back fondly on his *Dallas* years. He still hands out counterfeit \$10,000 bills with his autograph and a picture of J.R. in place of a deceased president as a gag, and says he never got tired of the role. Another *Dallas* reunion special is set to air April 24.

"I had a good time doing it and made a lot of money, so I can pick and choose what I want to do now. I don't have to work. I can do it for fun. That's a true luxury," says Hagman, whose salary in 1980-81, when the show hit No. 1 in the Nielsen, was \$75,000 per episode.

The show rode atop the ratings for three seasons, and the "Who Shot J.R.?" episode remains second only to the last *M-A-S-H* show as all-time most-watched program.

In 1980, Hagman said: "The time is ripe for a bad guy, and I'm it." And before the decade was over, J.R. Ewing — a man apparently devoid of integrity, faithfulness, honesty or any other redeeming trait in his business dealings or personal life — stood as a paradigm for the greedy, go-go Reagan-belted '80s, or so pop-culture pundits said.



Larry Hagman in his most famous role — J.R. Ewing from the TV show 'Dallas' (UPP)

## Cameri Theater: Building a dream

By HELEN KAYE

Actor Yossi Yadin has been buying Mifal Hapayis lotto tickets all his life, "and I never won anything. Finally I've won big time."

Yadin wasn't talking about cash but about a building. A founding member of the Cameri Theater, he's been in the company all his professional life. He was speaking at last week's press conference at which Mifal Hapayis announced that it was providing the \$23 million necessary to build the new Cameri.

The complex will slot into what its architect, Ya'acov Rechter, termed "the black hole" (a 10,000 sq.m. space by the side of the opera house) at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center (TAPAC). Construction of the main 1,000-seat theater is expected to start almost immediately, and its cornerstone will be laid in a ceremony on April 19.

"We expect the theater to open its doors by the year 2000," said Yadin's general manager Ya'acov Bardugo, introducing the project which comprises two theaters, office, rehearsal, technical and storage space.

As well as the main theater, there will be a smaller 400-seat house for chamber and experimental productions.

The Cameri is almost less a theater than it is an institution and a

synonym for the kind of provocative theater that grabs headlines and sells seats. General manager Noam Semel reels off impressive statistics that include an annual audience of 600,000 and an active repertoire of 20 plays.

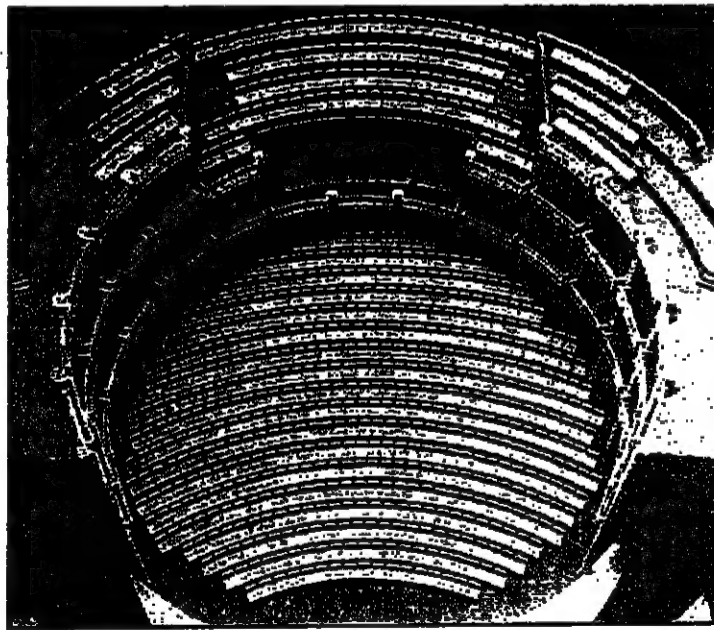
Two current Cameri productions, *Murder* and *The Whore from Ohio*, recently got most of the top honors at the Israel Theater Prize ceremonies.

The new complex, however, will be the Cameri's first purpose-built space.

The Cameri Theater is one of three major metropolitan building projects that Mifal Hapayis will fund in honor of the jubilee. The others are a sports stadium at the entrance to Jerusalem and a state-of-the-art mediatech library in Haifa.

LAST WEEK'S press conference to announce the start of construction on the new \$23 m. Cameri theater complex on its designated site at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center had the appearance of being carefully stage-managed.

Mindful of the storm of criticism that swirled around the construction of TAPAC, Yadin's general manager Bardugo was careful to enumerate a system of checks and balances designed to ensure proper financial and management practices during the process. Mifal Hapayis is providing the funding,



A plan of Yadin's 'dream' theater, which he is planning to build.

and Bardugo said that "transparency and accountability" will be the order of the day.

There will be a nine-member permanent steering committee whose job it will be to supervise all aspects of the construction. There will be incentive bonuses and/or penalties, said Bardugo, to ensure fiscal responsibility. The project consultant will be

Uri Ofer who managed the TAPAC construction and accomplished the near impossible task of completing the opera house on time and at 7% more than the original budget of \$45 m.

But critics accused Ofer of criminal mismanagement, an accusation which came to nothing because while a report by Judge Arye Segalson criticized some of

Ofer's practices, it uncovered nothing felonious.

Nonetheless, Ofer, who was also general manager of the New Israeli Opera, resigned because of the furor and because he was understandably disgusted at what was essentially a witch hunt.

There was also a flurry of negative criticism directed at the house itself, supposedly a state-of-the-art building. Extra bathrooms had to be added, for instance. Parts of the stage are invisible from a section of the theater and from the side-balconies. There are virtually no wings at stage right, which makes entrances and exits problematic.

The architect for both the opera house and the new Cameri, is Rechter, who designed the entire complex 12 years ago, and whom former mayor Shlomo Lahat appointed at the time, rather than put the project up for tender as city regulations require.

Lahat defends his decision, saying "I chose him because I believe in him, and the biggest architects don't usually subject themselves to tender, they think it beneath them."

Cameri general manager Noam Semel says that his own technical people will meet with the architects and the builders to thrash out problems and discuss the theater's needs.

Let's hope they've listened to.

## The Pessah story set to music

The Seder is one of the most unique evenings in Jewish life. In fact, it is the only night of the year in which the community sits at home and chants sacred music.

During the year we generally pray in the synagogue, where one member of the community — the cantor — leads the congregation in a sacred experience which is a combination of music and text. But at home we do not usually pray. We say the kiddush and not usually pray. We say the Seder sing the grace after the meal, but the Seder is the one occasion in which every Jew participates in the retelling of our nation's history in music and words.

It is rather strange, then, that not many composers, if any, have taken the story of the exodus from Egypt and created a more musical-dramatic work out of it. After all, it has all the operatic and oratorio ingredients in it. Yes, Rossini has his *Moses opera* and Handel has his *Israel in Egypt oratorio*. But that seems to be it. Other than that, our Passover music remains within the congregation.

Paul Dessau's *Haggada shel Pessah* (Capriccio 10590/91) is an oratorio that takes the Haggada as its basis and creates a

real oratorio out of it. But it is a work no one was familiar with for many years. Now Gerd Albrecht, musical director of the Hamburg Opera, has recorded the piece in a most impressive rendition which, however, explains why it was never really a musical hit.

Klaus Angermann's excellent article in the accompanying booklet explains the history of the oratorio which was written in the mid-'30s and never reached performance in the composer's lifetime. The text is by Max Brod and the list of dramatic persona features Moses and Pharaoh, as well as several of the rabbis mentioned in the Haggada.

It is written in seven parts, because, as Brod explained to the composer, "I believe our work should have seven parts, like the seven-branch candelabra. Seven is a sacred number."

The performance under Albrecht's enthusiastic baton is quite impressive, and Brend Weikl is a most impressive, full-voiced Moses. Our own Gabi Sade is, curiously enough, Pharaoh and he sings superbly.

The other soloists, choirs, and the Hamburg Philharmonic Orchestra are all first rate and

give this opus much more than it actually deserves. Because this oratorio is anything but a captivating, enthralling musical opus.

It is very professionally written, but it lacks the kind of inspiration that one finds in the works of Mendelssohn, Handel or Rossini, for example. But all that cannot take away from the importance of Albrecht's work, which should be commended wholeheartedly.

### CLASSIC DISCS

By MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

THE PASSOVER STORY (The Western Wind Vocal Ensemble. Western Wind Records 1800 CD) is an altogether different matter. This is the output of one of many American ensembles which are devoted to the performance of traditional Jewish music. The Voice of the Turtle, for example, try to preserve the folk and traditional Jewish melodies of the Middle Ages. Joel Cohen and his Boston Camerata try to perform Jewish music which is even older. And in both instances, the discs are much more interesting than the live performances.

Here we have a different kind of performance, which is much more American in

## NEWS

of the muse

### Oil and water: 'Titanic' inundates Qatar

Icebergs are unthinkable in Qatar, but about one-sixth of the residents of the small desert emirate — 95,000 people — have seen the megahit *Titanic*. The movie's take in its first four weeks is a record, according to cinema director Abdul-Rahman Mohsen. To keep up with the demand during last week's Islamic holiday, Qatar's two cinemas added a morning show and another after midnight, bringing the daily screenings to five.

The story of the ship that hit an iceberg in 1912 and sank in the Atlantic, with the loss of more than 1,500 of its 2,200 passengers, has drawn entire families to the movie theaters. Women, who had previously shunned cinemas in this conservative Arab society, have been streaming in to see the film which won 11 Oscars. Students skipped classes to watch the morning show because evening seats were sold out.

*Titanic* has also pulled the rug from under the Indian movies that have long been the main fare owing to the 130,000-strong Indian community in Qatar. (AP)

### Joni Mitchell reunited with her daughter

Joni Mitchell's natural daughter says she can see both sides now to discovering her birth mother. Kilauren Gibb was reunited last year with her birth parents, Canadian folk-rock icon Mitchell and Toronto photographer Brad MacMath.

At first for Gibb, 33, the experience seemed like a fairy tale. Overnight, she acquired an extended and loving family. Overnight, nagging questions about her origins were resolved. She spent long weeks in Los Angeles, leisurely getting to know Mitchell, sitting by the pool, hanging out with rock stars and celebrities. But as fairy tales go, Gibb now concedes, this one is slightly flawed, and may contain some sobering lessons for other adopted children in search of their roots. There was a two-month rupture in relations with her adoptive parents, retired schoolteachers Ida and David Gibb. (AP)

### Overdue royalties for 'Louie Louie'

Even though the Kingsmen never received any royalties for their version of "Louie Louie," the rock standard should have made the band rich, a federal appeals court ruled. The band recorded the song in 1963 and signed a contract in 1968 that was supposed to provide them with 9 percent of the profits or licensing fees from the record.

In 1993 the Kingsmen, some of whom are still on tour, sued Gusto Records and GML, who held the rights to the recording. A federal judge rescinded the contract, granted the musicians the right to all royalties from the time they sued, and held the companies in contempt when they refused to surrender the master recording. In a 3-0 ruling Friday, the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the judge's ruling in favor of the Kingsmen. Total royalties due since 1993 are in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, said Scott A. Edelman, an attorney for the Kingsmen. (AP)

### Jury set for 51st Cannes Film Festival

Actresses including Sigourney Weaver, Winona Ryder, Lena Olin and Chiara Mastroianni will be part of the jury at next month's 51st Cannes Film Festival. The 10-member jury also will include French rapper MC Solaar and director Alain Corneau. Director Martin Scorsese will preside over the jury. (AP)

### High hopes for Hootie's third album

Hootie and the Blowfish hope the third time is the charm. The band's debut album *Cracked Rear View* sold a whopping 15 million albums, while the follow-up *Fairweather Johnson* was far less impressive with 2 million sales. Soon they'll be heading back to the studio to make number three. The band has already taken some of its new material on the road, playing shows in the US. After a benefit show this week, Hootie heads for L.A. to begin recording the album tentatively slated for September. (AP)

### Jubilee with the Druse and Circassians

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu will attend the opening ceremonies for 10 days of celebration in honor of the jubilee by the Druse and Circassian communities at Hupish in the western Galilee on April 21. The program includes a pageant on the communities' daily lives and a concert by pop singer Haim Moshe. The subsequent programs will be free to the general public and include displays of horsemanship, an exhibition of military equipment, and a Beduin tent complete with camels to ride. The Druse community at Hupish feels itself "an integral part of the state," according to local council head Mufid Amar. Helen Kaye

### Cameri honors its own

Yossi Yadin is a founding member of the Tel Aviv Cameri Theater. (See facing story.) Hanna Marron joined the company not long after. Both distinguished actors will be celebrated for their contribution to the Israeli theater at a special evening given in their honor on April 27 by the drama department of Seminar Hakibbutzim. The program will include excerpts from their best-known productions and from the many films in which both have appeared. Yadin and Marron will do their own favorite bits. Helen Kaye

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## Keep the pressure on Iran

Yesterday, a confrontation reminiscent of China's Tiananmen Square protests in 1989 broke out in Teheran. Though students had ostensibly canceled their planned protest on news that popular Teheran mayor Mayor Gholamhossein Karbaschi would soon be freed, two thousand students marched anyway, and were confronted by riot police.

The arrest of Karbaschi, considered a key supporter of President Mohammed Khatami, shows that the power struggle between Iran's old guard and the reformist president is mounting, raising the question of how the West should respond to Iran's internal turmoil.

Since his surprise landslide victory in elections nearly a year ago, Khatami has charmed the West with his more moderate stance toward the United States and more liberal domestic policy. He has also repaired relations with some of the many nations in the region that had reduced or severed ties in response to Teheran's aggressive policies — including Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Iraq.

But Khatami has yet to demonstrate that he is more than a front man for Iran's more conservative clerics, who hold the real power.

It is hard to tell what the arrest and possible release of Karbaschi says about who is winning the power struggle between the different forces in Iran. As important, however, is the question as to whether it really matters who wins this struggle. It is unclear, for example, whether if Khatami had more power, he would slow Iran's race to obtain weapons of mass destruction and an indigenous long-range missile production capability. Iran, after all, has been trying to obtain nuclear weapons since the days of the Shah.

Though the Pentagon says there is no evidence to corroborate reports published in this newspaper that Iran has already obtained nuclear weapons from a former Soviet republic, such a scenario is hardly inconceivable, either now or in the future.

Though it now seems to be in the West's interest for Khatami to succeed, past experience has led the US to wonder whether the label "Iranian moderate" is a contradiction in terms. Khatami himself reportedly maintains active ties with the leaders of militant and terrorist groups supported by Teheran. A report published by the *New York Times* last month, that Khatami had sent US President Bill Clinton a message pledging that Iran would no longer support groups opposed to the Arab-Israeli peace process, has been met with skepticism here. Israeli security

sources point out that there has been no change in Iranian support for terrorist groups, or any reduction in the flow of weapons and training for Hizbullah, since Khatami's election.

The US has been sending clear messages that real change in Iran will be received positively by the US. As Clinton said in a January statement "to the people of Iran": "The United States regrets the estrangement of our two nations. ... We have real differences with some Iranian policies, but I believe these are not insurmountable."

Already, the US has taken small steps, such as allowing Iranian diplomats there to move about more freely. What the US and other nations are asking themselves is whether reducing Iran's international isolation now will help or hurt the chances of the regime changing in a substantial way. Here the answer should be clear: The premature granting of carrots to the regime will weaken, not strengthen, moderate forces, because the pressure for change will be reduced.

In this respect, the foot-dragging the US has exhibited in imposing clearly mandated sanctions against entities aiding Iran's energy sector and missile development program is counterproductive and shortsighted. Since last September, the Clinton administration has refused to sanction a consortium led by the French company Total for a \$2 billion deal to develop Iran's natural gas fields, despite the fact that the company has almost been boasting about its defiance of US sanctions.

Time is also running out for the US to unequivocally link its space cooperation with Russia to a complete severing of the ties between Russian institutes and Iran's missile program. US and Israeli officials agree that not enough has happened since January's declaration by Russia that was to end the technology flow. The fact that the Russian half of the Gorbachev-Mikhail Gorbachev dialogue has been fired certainly does not add confidence that the decree will be implemented any time soon.

The arrest of Karbaschi shows that Khatami's influence is a thin reed on which to base policy. It is a mistake to fiddle while Iran's missile program proceeds apace. US credibility is also harmed when it chooses to string out interminably congressionally mandated sanctions.

The purpose of the sanctions is to deter behavior that threatens US interests, and in this case, Israel's security as well. Wishful thinking about the Iranian regime should not be allowed to derail the sanctions, particularly when imposing sanctions may be the best way the US can encourage positive changes there.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### KOSHER FOR PESSAH

Sir, — I write to correct Aryeh Dean Cohen's "Middle of nowhere? There are probably Jews there," (February 3). Cohen tells the tale of a Jew who died in a Jewishly desolate part of (ex-German) South West Africa, now Namibia, and the tombstone read, in Hebrew, "Here lies Peter Cohen, Kosher for Pessah." This story is taken from a recent book, *Jewish Communities of the World* promoted by the Institute of the World Jewish Congress.

The person concerned is not Peter Cohen but Walter Galler, born in 1888 and died in 1939. I

published a local story about it in 1972 and suggested the theory that his devoted non-Jewish wife sought and found a scrap of Hebrew writing on a Pessah matza carton and asked a local mason to chisel the Hebrew letters on his gravestone. Since no one in the region could read Hebrew, the mason chiselled *kasher lePessah* in letters upside down!

I believe these Hebrew letters have since been removed.

SCHNEIR LEVIN

Johannesburg.

### MERETZ MINORITY

Sir, — As he meets privately with Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, "Meretz MKs meet with King Hussein in Amman" (April 14). King Hussein might be respectfully reminded that Sarid and his colleagues represent a mere 7.4 percent of the Israeli public as expressed in our democratic elections in 1996.

Any attempt on Sarid's part to imply that his views are supported by more than a tiny minority of Israelis is gross misrepresentation. It is misleading therefore to describe the proposed delegation

which will travel to the United States and Europe for the stated purpose of garnering support for the "peace process" — but which will actually be engaged propaganda on behalf of the Palestinians — as comprising Jordanians, Palestinians and Israelis. The delegation should rather be described as consisting of Jordanians, Palestinians and Meretz members.

NAOMI SCHENDOWICH

Jerusalem.

### ARMISTICE AGREEMENT

Sir, — By now it should be obvious that the terminology of a "peace process" with the Palestinians is a misnomer. Israel will never agree to the re-division of Jerusalem, return of Arab refugees to their original homes, removal of settlements and return to pre-1967 borders, and the Palestinians will never agree to much less than that.

Therefore, we should start talking about armistice rather than

peace. Thus, we can agree on an airport and harbor in Gaza, free passage between Gaza and the northern Palestinian territories and other items and leave it at that, without calling it a failure of the peace process, but rather a successful armistice agreement.

DR. JACOB ROSIN

Netanya.

### SILENCE IS GOLDEN

Sir, — When Margaret Thatcher was Britain's prime minister, the story was told that she invited her cabinet out for dinner. She ordered roast turkey, and when asked "what about the vegetables?" she replied "they will eat the same as I eat."

Although this story is only a joke it does illustrate vividly that the ministers of the British government could, and did, keep their own counsel, unlike their counterparts in Israel, who speak "authoritatively" on any topic, on any, and every occasion. It also shows that Margaret Thatcher commanded and steered a very "tight ship." A quality that appears to be lacking in our leaders.

Surely it would be the benefit of all, and especially for Israel, if less was said by those whose words are noted and analyzed. These words are then criticized and condemned, by the world's media. The press will always be free to speculate and offer biased or unbiased information, but they should receive this information from one authoritative voice — and not from an "unofficial" source.

The prime minister and all those who will succeed him, should give firm directives that no one is to talk publicly unless permission has been given to do so.

The haphazard way news is relayed to the media will always undermine authority. There was never a better maxim than "silence is golden."

NORMAN COHEN

Jerusalem.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

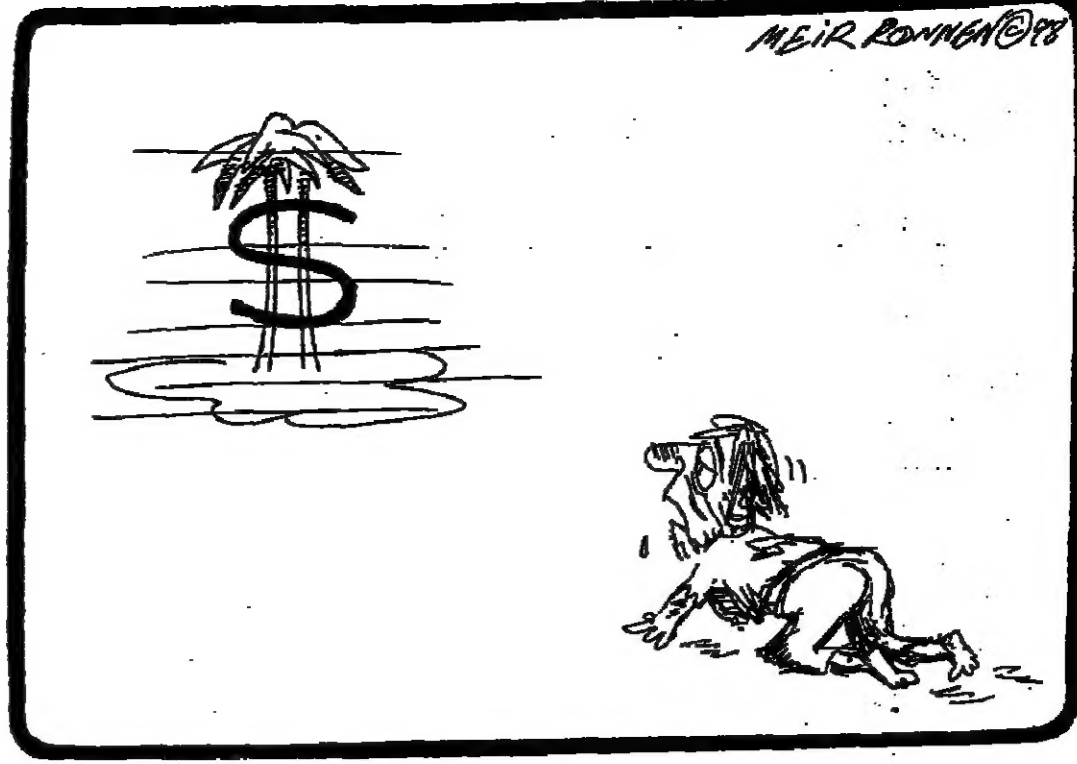
50 years ago: On April 15, 1948, the *Palestine Post* reported from London that the British foreign secretary announced in the House of Commons that the special status of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, functioning under Article Four of

the Mandate, would terminate when the Mandate expired and that the future relations between Britain and the Zionist authorities would depend on the course of events in Palestine.

25 years ago: On April 15,

1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the missile boat *Reshef*, launched by the Israeli ship yards in February, had completed her sea tests with flying colors.

Alexander Zvielli



## Bravo, Ireland

DAVID NEWMAN

A few weeks ago in this column, I wrote about the significance of the meeting between Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, comparing this with the first meeting which took place between Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat back in 1993.

The responses from irate readers were not long in coming. Mistaking the comparison between the two meetings with a comparison of the history of the two conflicts, partisan readers — British and Israeli — protested.

Some argued that 400 years of British sovereignty in Ireland could not be compared to the illegal occupation of the West Bank by Israel; others argued that Britain's illegal conquest of Ireland, however long ago, did not bear comparison with Israel's return to its ancient homeland in a defensive war in 1967.

But in light of last week's historic agreement over the future of Northern Ireland, there is a new comparison to be made. Can the Catholics and Protestants in Ireland succeed in implementing the terms of the peace agreement, bringing about long-term stability and an end to violence, where Israel and the Palestinians have failed to live up to the euphoria and the expectations which were present in the heady days following the two Oslo agreements?

The scenarios are not difficult to imagine: While the peace agreement is being implemented, extreme splinter groups, *Unionist* or Catholic, could undertake an act of terrorism in the heart of a shopping center. Or the IRA may decide to make a public declaration that it sees this agreement as being no more than a step on the path to final integration between North and South Ireland and that the historic struggle for independence has not yet reached its conclusion.

For their part, the Unionist leaders could spoil the show by making public declarations to the effect that Northern Ireland will

forever remain part of the United Kingdom and that the agreement should not be interpreted as a surrender to IRA violence.

In Ireland, as in Israel, the peace agreement has been reached by leaders who have finally realized that continued violence and terrorism is detrimental to both sides. There is no coming together of the basic ideological positions of each side, just as there has been no ideological rapprochement between Jews and Arabs.

### Can Ireland learn from the mistakes of the Oslo peace process?

For that to happen, it requires an end to violence and the beginning of a socialization process in which Catholic and Protestant, Jewish and Arab, children are taught to appreciate the history, values and customs of the "other" without automatically equating them with the "enemy" and the "threat."

AN important difference in both peace processes is the fact that the ultimate fate of the Ireland agreement will depend on the outcome of a referendum to be held amongst the Northern Ireland population. This option was never offered to the Israeli population and, for many, the Oslo Agreements were seen as being a peace made between political leaders and elites, not between the populations.

By the time the elections were held in 1996, too many events had occurred — including the assassination of prime minister Rabin and the terrorist bombings in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv — for the result to be seen as a clear indication of support or rejection for the agreements.

Had there been a referendum shortly after the signing of the

Oslo Agreement, the chances of a large majority in favor would have provided the Rabin government with the necessary mandate for its implementation.

This would also have taken the wind out of the right-wing opposition in their attempts to delegitimize the government by arguing that it lacked the necessary popular mandate for making such far-reaching concessions. Rabin, unfortunately, chose to ignore this important aspect of public support.

Even if not a legal requirement, public support for the implementation of major peace agreements adds an important moral dimension for any government which attempts to bring about a peace which necessitates concessions. This is as true of the Israeli government in handing over territory as it is for the Palestinians in their recognition of the State of Israel, although they are not necessarily viewed as such by the other.

There is no guarantee that the Northern Ireland referendums will back the agreement, but the initial indications point to widespread consensus in favor.

Of course, the cultural divide between Catholics and Protestants in Ireland is nowhere as great as that between Arabs and Jews. They speak the same language, wear the same clothes and are not automatically recognizable, as being "different" from each other. But many of them continue to reside in separate neighborhoods and communities and view the intentions of the "other" with mistrust and a great deal of fear. Those responsible for the further implementation of this historic agreement must take care to learn from the lessons of Israel, to be more aware of the constraints faced by the other side in its attempt to gain popular support and to convince the population that the long-term peace dividend is far better than any short-term show of intransigence.

We should wish them the very best of Irish luck.

## Positive changes

DAVID KIMCHE

one that knows how to choose the best means, in a logical order of priorities, in order to achieve the national goals. Ben-Gurion correctly put the emphasis on the third and fourth categories — the consolidation of the political legislation of Israel as a state, and the ingathering of the exiles — the

### We have in our grasp today the possibility of achieving peace with security. We must not miss this chance

massive bringing home of Jews from the four corners of the world. Begin correctly seized the opportunity for moving forward toward the first set of goals when he went to Camp David and agreed to pay a heavy price for the sake of peace with Egypt.

Golda Meir missed that opportunity, for she misread the political map after the Six Day War in 1967. She could have then moved towards a peaceful solution with the Palestinians, but her priorities were wrong and she did not understand how to exploit the changing circumstances in order to achieve our national goals.

At that time, Yasser Arafat's PLO had only been in existence for two years, and was not yet a force to be reckoned with in the territories of Judea, Samaria and Gaza. There was a strong hard-core element among the Palestinians in those territories who were willing to come to terms with us. We chose to ignore them, and, as a result, opened the door wide to enable the most extreme among the PLO to take over.

Golda Meir's mistakes cost us dearly in blood that was split unnecessarily and in a wasted opportunity to bring an end, or at least to limit, the conflict with our neighbors. Thirty years later, that opportunity has again arisen, and we stand once again on the threshold of advancing towards one of our major national goals, the attainment of peace with security.

The circumstances today are much more favorable than they were in 1967: there is no longer a hostile Soviet Union to sabotage and undermine our peace efforts, the Arab world no longer negates our very existence, while Israel itself is much stronger than it was then, militarily and economically, and need not have any fear from its neighbors.

Then, as now, there were Palestinians who were willing to make peace with us, but this time they represent the majority of the Palestinian people, backed by the PLO itself and by a large part of the Arab world. Will we ignore the challenge now as we did then?

A good government is measured by its ability to adapt itself to changing circumstances in order to achieve its national goals. We have in our grasp today the possibility of achieving peace with security. It must be understood that there will not, cannot, be security without peace. The two go together. Peace can be fashioned in a manner that will uphold our security, but security without peace is non-existent.

The circumstances today are such that enable us to reach that goal. If our government fails to exploit these circumstances it will bring tragedy to our people. In generations to come, our children and grandchildren will bemoan the fact that because of a bad government, Israel missed the chance of attaining one of its most important goals, peace with our neighbors and security. We must not allow that to happen.

## Tragedies and miracles

RUTHIE BLUM

Pessah may be the commemoration of Israel's freedom from bondage, but Israelis — like most members of the human race — are far more comfortable celebrating tragedies and miracles than renewing vows.

This is not surprising. Freedom is one of those states of being which requires collective commitment and individual responsibility. We like to think of miracles and tragedies as happening through no apparent effort on our part or fault of our own.

Freedom, on the other hand, is something we have to claim and to nurture. It is also something which has consequences for which we have to take full responsibility. This may explain why the Pessah issue of *Yedioth Aharonot* steered clear of the freedom question and headed straight for the tragedies and miracles of our government.

Perhaps weary of churning out the same old comparisons between ancient Israelite and modern Palestinian bondage (which pour out of the pens of pundits on opinion-piece deadlines every year at this time), *Yedioth* took the opportunity to examine the "half-time" situation of the prime minister through "tragedy and miracle" glasses.

The tragedy: the direct election nearly two years ago of Binyamin Netanyahu — an inexperienced, inept, serial peace-killer with an inflated ego and weak character — to the premiership. The miracle: the uncanny upward swing in public opinion of the same disaster-prone premier who everyone predicted was on his way out.

To the great disappointment of ardent Bibi-bashers everywhere, our recuperating leader — laughing heartily when reminded of *Yedioth's* Shimon Schiffer or the latest joke circulating about an elephant born in Africa with "Bibi skin" — did a very wise thing. He headed his critics off at the pass.

### Sometimes a cigar is just a cigar

"I'm not ashamed to say that I made a lot of mistakes," he boasted humbly. "The first year is for making mistakes. The second — for correcting them."

Such statements may or may not make a good interview, but they certainly indicate a desire on Netanyahu's part to cross the desert which nearly dehydrated him, and to get on with the business of leading the convoy across it.

Fearing where all this will lead — namely, smack into huge territorial compromise — the prime minister's detractors on the Right undoubtedly are apprehensive about his burst of renewed energy. Fearing where all this will lead — namely, smack into six more years of Netanyahu leadership — his detractors on the Left undoubtedly are apprehensive about running out of scandals to pin on him. But whereas the Right only has the facts on its side, the Left has the media.

HEAVY on claiming and nurturing freedom of the press, while a bit light on taking the responsibility that goes with it, *Yedioth Aharonot* did not let its hamstrung readers down. And few publications can hold a candle to the aforementioned daily where scandals involving the prime minister are concerned.

Last weekend's in-depth spread was no exception. Lest the assessment of Netanyahu's term up until now serve to bolster the premier in any way, Shlomo Abramovitch and Anat Tal-Shir provided us with the holiday fare which we have come to expect, if not crave. It turns out, the investigative reporters divulge, that Netanyahu has a weakness for expensive cigars which costs the taxpayer the equivalent of the annual budget required for running a battered women's shelter.

Now cigars are something scandal-seekers can really sink their teeth into. Not only are stogies carcinogenic, but they are the "fix" of the orally-fixated upper crust — in this case, of those on the wrong side of the political spectrum.

The first tragedy here is that the growing number of women seeking refuge from their own personal bondage must be horrified at this information. The second is that *Yedioth* didn't provide similar figures for comparison regarding the expenditure of our tax shekels on hospitality by previous premiers — not mentioning any halcyon names in vain — from what has come to be known as the "peace camp."

The miracle: the ability of many Israelis to recognize a smoke-screen when they see one — that sometimes a cigar is just a cigar — and to hope to see Bibi still around "next year in Jerusalem."



# Virtual travel can be a real adventure

Some families enjoying extended trips are taking a whole host of unseen companions along with them — courtesy of the World Wide Web.  
Allison Kaplan Sommer reports

Who hasn't fantasized about the romance of extended travel — hopping into a camper or a boat and taking off to see the world? But the gap between fantasy and reality can often seem impossible to overcome, particularly after one has settled down and is raising a family.

Luckily, in the age of the Internet, it is possible to participate vicariously in the adventures of those who actually take up the challenge of embarking on a long family odyssey. A growing number of families who travel are using the World Wide Web to record their trips, educate others, and inspire those who only dream to get up and undertake a similar challenge.

From the moment Mark Blondin, his wife and three teenaged children decided to launch their nine-month camper adventure across the continental US and Hawaii between September 1996 and June 1997, the Internet played a key role in their plans. The Blondins had just enrolled their children in a new school: a science- and technology-based charter school near their Michigan home.

For the first four weeks the kids attended school then took off for what the family dubbed as "Assignment America," promising to record their travels for their teachers and schoolmates on the Web so the trip would be an educational experience for all.

"Developing the website to chronicle our experiences became an integral part of our adventure. The school loaned us a laptop computer and digital camera," recounted Mark Blondin. "Our local community college volunteered space on their server for our website, and directed us to the technical people that would help us launch our project."

THE BIGGEST challenge for the family on the road was finding phone lines to connect to the Internet in some of their more remote destinations. "Very quickly we got adept at finding places like computer stores, hotels and Radio Shacks that were open to us using their phone lines," said Blondin.

"We accessed from some very unusual places, like the information desk at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. For about an hour we transferred files, checked e-mail and looked up information on the Internet, while handing out maps and directing visitors to various locations in the museum."

The search for phone lines was a "natural icebreaker and conversation starter" Blondin added, and the family usually ended up chatting and showing off their web site to strangers and discussing families, traveling, education, and technology with the new acquaintances they made during their quests.

Often their new friends would send them e-mail later on during the trip. Blondin believes that the ability to send and receive e-mail was vital to breaking the sense of isolation that can invade such a long trip, particularly for teens.

"E-mail from home, friends we met along the way, and complete strangers who discovered our website provided encouragement, support, and an acknowledgment that what we were doing was invaluable for our family," said

**We got e-mail messages, many from complete strangers... at the time of greatest doubt we would get an e-mail saying, 'I think you are so brave'**

Blondin. "We got several messages, many from complete strangers, telling their stories of family trips, defining moments of their youth and families. These kept us going and reinforced our commitment."

"At times money issues invaded our dream. It seems at the time of greatest doubt we would get an e-mail from someone that started, 'I think you are so brave...' or 'I wish we had done something like that...'"

The Blondins took the educational aspect of their "Assignment America" extremely seriously, describing all of the art institutes, aquariums, zoos and national parks they visited, and what they learned there. Their children took a particularly keen interest in science, so in places like Big Bend National Park in southwest Texas they compiled web pages about the plant, animal, and geological life of the area for their site.

The site contains a map of their journey, as well as links for the

websites of the places they visited. "Could we have done all of this without technology? Certainly. Would the adventure have been as rich? Not even close. We were pioneers on a new frontier. That frontier exists only now, in the latter part of the 20th century," said Blondin.

WHILE the Blondins' journey may sound adventurous, it was positively tame compared to the odyssey of the Lafitte family, who boarded a 47-foot sailboat called the *Kyrnos* in 1996 and sailed to a host of exotic islands.

On their website you can read about their adventures in places like Fiji, Samoa, French Polynesia, Bora Bora and the Marquesas Islands, with an invitation from Nicolas, 9, Mathieu, 7, and Lucas, 4, to "come along with us on our adventure — a two-year cruise around the Pacific Ocean. Oh, we had to take our parents along, too!"

Since the children were significantly younger than the Blondins, keeping the website diary — with its tales of pearl-hunting, deep-sea fishing, cyclones, encounters with sharks, and bizarre native customs — was something they did "just for fun" rather than for class credit.

The three boys said that what they liked best about using the Internet was the e-mail they receive from visitors to the site, even after their return to their home in Seattle two months ago.

"We get lots of letters and have made new friends," said Nicolas. "So far we have received about 1,600 letters from people."

In their final dispatch from New Zealand before heading home, the family wrote that they hope their site has "fulfilled some couch potatoes' dreams of cruising the seas — or maybe we've motivated some to set their own course. 'Don't wait until tomorrow to live your dreams, do it now!'"

IT ISN'T only families taking marathon journeys who use the Web to record their travels. Some enjoy recording shorter excursions.

For a family from Palo Alto, California, Elaine and Eric Hahn and their children age five and one, recording their month in Tuscany last summer on-line was a natural extension of the way they planned the entire trip.

They had found the villa they chose to rent — a former church called Casa San Bernardo — on the Internet. They made their flight



The Lafitte boys invite browsers to join them on their journey. "Oh, we had to take our parents along, too!"



Wrestling a lobster caught in the Sea of Cortez

plans and checked the train schedules on-line, and learned about events in the region on the Web before they left.

So it simply followed that instead of sending postcards, they would send e-mail to family and friends, and instead of taking photos for a traditional family album, they would devote Web pages to their trip. The Hahns' vacation site recounts their sightseeing in Florence, complete with photographs of the city, as well as pictures of Casa San Bernardo and the bucolic scenery of Tuscany.

They added a special feature to

their pages, dubbing it the "Chianti Cam." Every time the Hahn parents consumed a bottle of wine they photographed it, and put the picture on the Net. Web surfers can view the bottle collection and take note of the Hahns' recommendations for the best vintages.

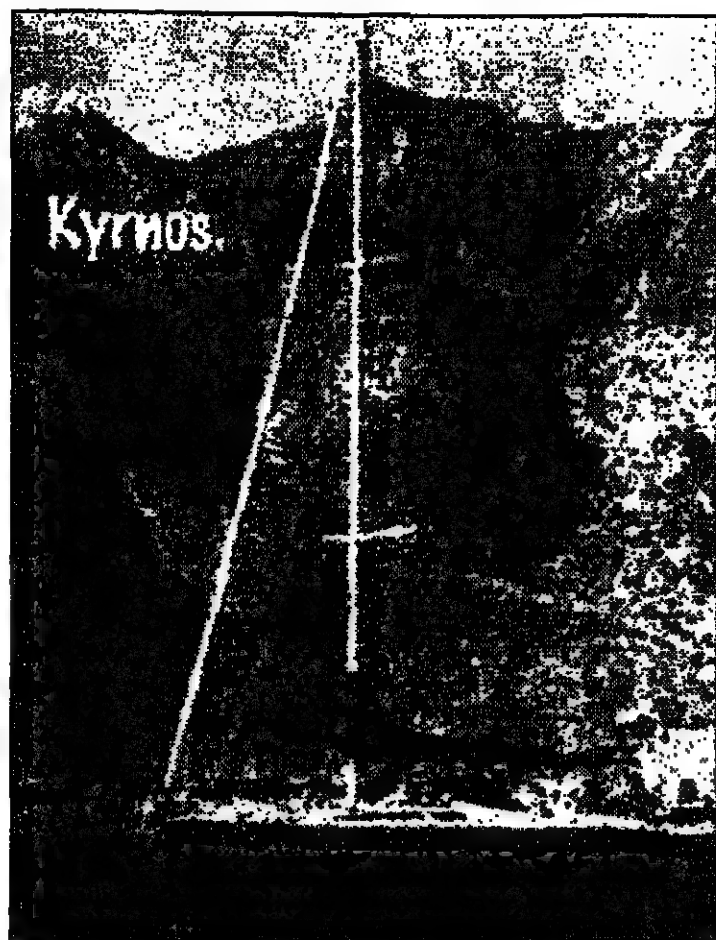
True, Eric Hahn admitted, they had to endure some perplexed looks from the Italians when they pointed their camera at each bottle of wine, as well as raised eyebrows when the natives saw how much electronic equipment they had brought on vacation. "The tendency to look like the 'ugly American tourist' is worsened when you're carrying all that extra gear," admitted Eric Hahn.

Overall, he said it was important to keep all these new technological bells and whistles in proper perspective. Certainly, they are adding a valuable new dimension to travel for travelers and spectators alike, he said, but this is not what any trip should be about. "Since we live in Silicon Valley it is easy to conclude that technology is at the center of life," Hahn said. "But while it was certainly fun to record and publish the trip on-line — and yes, we'll do this again in the future — it really didn't change the experience as much as you might think. In the end, the time was all about being together as a family in a marvelous place."

Website addresses:  
Blondin's "Assignment America":  
<http://www.ncmc.cc.mi.us/Blondin>

Lafitte Children Sail the Pacific:  
<http://www.goats.com/kyrnos/kyrnhome.htm>

Hahn Family Tuscany Trip:  
<http://www.hahnfamily.com/Tuscany/Main.htm>



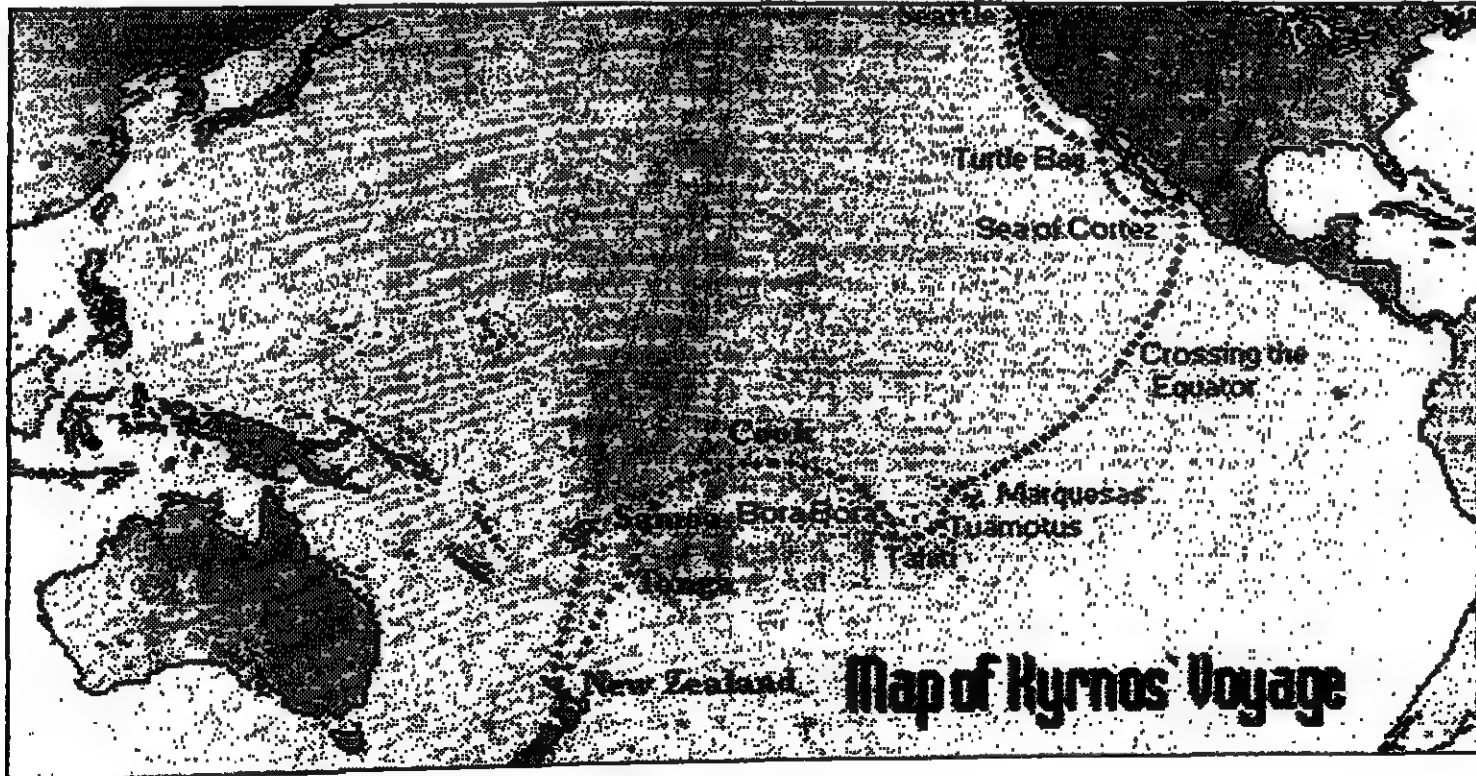
'Kyrnos,' the 47-foot sailboat that was home to the Lafitte family during their two-year Pacific cruise.



Bed of choice in the South Seas



The children missed school, but learned about other cultures first-hand.  
(All photos by Lafitte family)



## Avoid battles — try being positive



By Ruth Mason

Elliot Goldberg, M.D., a pediatrician with a specialty in behavioral pediatrics, shares his insights and methods for a more peaceful, conflict-free family life.

My approach to parent-child relations is based on the idea that your child is a free agent who has the power to decide his future.

Once you set things up so your

child will suffer if he disobeys you or you have to prove you're the boss, a battle invariably ensues. Why not set the rules, but make sure your child knows he has a choice — with consequences.

Say your three-year-old is jumping on the couch. You want to stay calm and avoid a battle. Instead of yelling at her to stop, you can offer her a choice: "You can continue jumping on the couch — but if you do, you'll have to leave the room, because you are not behaving in a responsible way. Or you can stop and then I can pay some attention to you — maybe we can play a game together."

Should your child choose to continue the inappropriate behavior, your attitude should be one of sadness, not anger. Remember, you're on her side. Pick her up and take her out of the room without

saying a word. When she comes back in, just say, "No jumping on the couch."

She will learn very quickly to make the decision not to jump on the couch because she'll see it just doesn't pay. But you have to be consistent.

The same principle can apply in relating to an adolescent.

For example, in a disagreement over curfews, you might say: "You want the freedom to go out and stay out until 1 a.m., but you have to consider my need not to have to worry about you. If you call me consistently and I know where you are, I will give you the privilege of staying out late. But if you don't call, you'll have to stay home. For every night I have to worry, you'll be grounded for a night."

Adolescents have a hard time seeing another person's needs. You need to let them know that if

they want something from you, they have to give in return.

Most children — and most adults — learn more from experience than from being lectured. You can go to a driving course and learn about driving safely, but it doesn't sink in as well as when a police officer hands you a ticket for speeding.

You'll know the next time not to speed.

WITH YOUNG children, it's best to talk less and act more. Jewish parents especially tend to explain everything, and if you have a verbal child, he'll turn every situation into a court of law; everything will become a matter for negotiation.

One way to avoid battles is to phrase things positively.

When you say, "If you don't do your homework, you can't go out and play," you're setting up an

adversarial situation. You're assuming the child is not going to do his homework, and he's already imagining his punishment. What you want to do is show the child that you're consistent and strong, but that you're also on his side. So it's more effective to be positive: "When you finish your homework, you can watch TV."

You want to create a situation where the battle is between the child's impulses and following the rules, and not between the child and you.

What do you do when your children are fighting? None of us is King Solomon, and you want to avoid being put in the position of judge. But you can teach kids how to cooperate and manage their disagreements themselves. You can say, "Every day you two don't hit, scream or curse each other even though you disagree, you will earn five

points. When you earn 500 points you will get a new computer game."

If they violate this and quarrel — over a TV program, for example — close your mouth, go over to the TV and turn it off. And let them know it stays off for a half-hour. If they turn it on, say quietly, "There was too much noise; I'll give you another chance in half-an-hour."

Sometimes when a fight has erupted, children need you as arbitrator, not judge. You set the ground rules. Everyone gets a chance to present their side: no interruptions, and no name-calling.

If they break those rules, simply say "You're interrupting," or write the rules down and point to them as a visual cue. You want to help your kids see another's point of view.

This is a developmental task that takes years. One good exer-

cise is to ask a child to state the other's point of view. And you can teach problem-solving: Have the children throw out solutions that can make everyone happy, then ask them pick out the best one. If they can't agree, have them pick one as a trial, and say, "We'll talk about it again in two days, and if this solution hasn't worked, we'll try another one."

This is all hard work and it takes time. Because we're all so busy, we tend to let things slide. But once your children get the gist of this method and have had practice with it, they can use it on their own. And they can take these skills into the playground and the classroom.

Basically the same philosophy applies whether your child is two or 14. The idea is not to end all conflicts, but to be able to deal with conflict.



# Relax, enjoy your garden



By Batsheva Mink  
and David Brauner

Gardeners should not be slaves to their gardens. And certainly none of us should be slaves during the days of Pessah. This week ought to be a time for pure letting go in the relaxing oasis of our own gardens. The best time for gardens is the spring when everything looks fresh and green. Winter is past, the rain is over. The days are getting longer and warmer. Most of the hard work was done in the autumn — planting bulbs and spring flowering plants. Now it's time to reap the reward.

So let's look at some of the ways to simply enjoy the pleasures of our gardens and the magic of spring in the countryside.

Even a tiny patch of a garden is a microcosm of nature's wonders, especially in spring. Take a garden chair onto the balcony, patio or lawn. Now just sit back and quietly observe. You'll soon begin to notice insects, lizards and birds.

Not long ago, we watched a pair of blackbirds building their nest in our jasmine. Their industrious comings and goings kept us entertained for a good half hour. And when we closed our eyes, we heard a whole chorus of bird song and whistling.

Although birds can be a nuisance, they are important for keeping destructive insects in check. Also, birds eat a tremendous quantity of weed seeds which would otherwise grow and have to be pulled up. Many gardeners are happy to attract birds. Bird houses, feeders filled with unsalted sunflower seeds, and bird baths (particularly important in summer) are welcomed by our flying friends.

Tiny iridescent sunbirds, which are fascinating to watch, not only eat small insects but are also plant pollinators. They gracefully feed in flight, dipping their long, curved beaks into flowers. Unlike certain insects, they have little sense of smell, so fragrance does not bring them to your garden. They can distinguish colors, particularly the reds, whites and yellows, but not blue, like bees.

As gardeners, we should be aware that a variety of both scents and colors is useful in attracting a healthy balance of friendly birds and insects to our gardens.

Our insect pollinators that are fun to observe are bumblebees (the only insect that can pollinate red clover), butterflies and moths. But honey bees are the most important pollinators, because they are faithful to one species. A worker bee that starts on almond blossoms, for instance, will work on only almond blossoms until it dies or until all the trees stop blooming. That is good because almond pollen would not be useful to a daisy blossom, for example.

So if you are growing a fruit tree, two or more are a must. But if pollinators (the birds and the bees) are plentiful, they don't need to be in your own yard. Or you can buy an apple tree, but the



This is the time of year to sit back and observe nature's wonders in your garden: start with the bees busy pollinating. (David Rubinger)

second variety may be an ornamental crabapple.

Another very friendly insect in the garden is the ladybug (Heb. *parat mashe rabbenu*). These little slow-flying, orange and black-spotted beetles are voracious aphid eaters in both their larva and adult stages. If you have aphids on your roses and can find some ladybugs, turn them loose on the rosebushes and your aphid problem will vanish.

Perhaps not as pleasant to behold, the praying mantis (Heb. *gemal shilomi*) is another formidable insect-eating insect. With their powerful forelegs and mandibles, the masters of camouflage can capture and devour many a harmful pest. They are also cannibalistic because after mating, the larger female will often make a meal of the male.

For those of you less interested in your garden's wildlife, we recommend that this week you do indoor things outside. Take your music, your book or your knitting and sit or lie in a hammock under the pleasant shade of a tree. Or maybe play a game of chess or scrabble with a friend in the garden or on the balcony.

Gardens can also be an inspiration for all kinds of hobbies. Take your camera or your paints and canvas no farther than your backyard. You are sure to find surpris-

es that you never noticed before among the familiar things. As for you poets out there, we hardly need to remind you that there's no end to the ideas you can get from the living things in a springtime garden.

Our father-in-law spent weeks watching a bumblebee that regularly returned to the flowerpots of his balcony. He took notes on its behavior and wrote innumerable poems to his buzzing friend.

go outside for a little light gardening. What is a chore for a grown-up is often fun for kids.

We have nephews who love to water plants. They fill up their watering cans and sprinkle everything in sight.

If you would like to combine your gardening with arts and crafts, you might want to try making a potpourri. To bring the lovely fragrances of the garden into your home, you can use almost any mixture of scented leaves, flowers and spices.

The leaves and herbs, which should be air dried, may include thyme, pine needles, geranium, rose or lemon leaves. Flowers to consider are rose and sunflower petals, sweet peas, violets, marigolds, lavender, etc. The spices can be cinnamon, allspice, nutmeg, cloves, dried orange peel, etc. Dry the leaves and herbs on newspaper or muslin spread over a cookie sheet in a warm, dry place until they are brittle to the touch. Put your choice of ingredients in layers in a wide jar with a lid (to conserve the scents when not in use). The top layer should be made decorative with rosebuds, pansies, cornflowers or honeysuckle.

We are aware, of course, that many of our readers don't have gardens or even balconies of their own. Well, there are great gardens to visit all over the country. One of our favorites is the state-ly Rothschild Gardens at Ramat Nadiv overlooking the Mediterranean south of Zichron Ya'acov. Another is Neot Kedumim, the Biblical Landscape Reserve between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, which is crisscrossed by four different walks among the many lush shrubs and trees. And with self-drive cars available there, it is particularly suitable for people who have difficulty walking.

The greatest garden is nature's own. At this time of year, the whole country is alive with flowers flaunting every color of the rainbow. From north to south, you can travel through the countryside without encountering the wealth of flora that is native to Israel. The sheer abundance of flowers growing quite happily without any help from us is amazing.

Israel is home to approximately 6,380 species of plants, of which 2,780 are native. Here are a few hints to help you to identify some of the more popular wild flowers that are spread over a large part of the country.

The red poppy (Heb. *parag*), which grows nearly everywhere, has lovely silky petals usually with a black center circled in white. The similar-looking red anemone (Heb. *calanit*) has a collar of leaves around its stem. The leaves of the red ranunculus (Heb. *nurit*) are feathery and the blossoms petals fleshier than a poppy and shaped more like a tulip.

While we are on the subject of red flowers, one of the most beautiful is the wild tulip (Heb. *zivoni*). Not as tall as the cultivated ones but just as special, it can be found



The modest, delicate anemone

(Judith Crown)

Recently we have been in two gardens where we have heard wind chimes. The gentle tinkling relaxes the stiffness and draws the stress right out of your ears. We've also seen mobiles in the shape of large-winged birds slowly flapping in the breeze.

If you have young children or grandchildren, encourage them to

touch. Put your choice of ingredients in layers in a wide jar with a lid (to conserve the scents when not in use). The top layer should be made decorative with rosebuds, pansies, cornflowers or honeysuckle.

We are aware, of course, that many of our readers don't have gardens or even balconies of their



Tiny iridescent sunbirds eat small insects and pollinate plants too. (David Ben-Or)



Silky red poppies grow nearly everywhere.

in the north, on the Sharon plains and in the Negev.

From the Golan Heights, down to Mt. Gilboa, and as far south as Kiryat Gat, we find the tall, elegant lupins (Heb. *turnus*). They have fanlike leaves with many spikes of purple and white pea-like flowers. Wild cornflowers (Heb. *dardar kachol*) with their true blue flowers can be seen in the fields. The pretty pink cyclamens (Heb. *rakefet*) are starting to go dormant for the summer, but you can still manage to find some growing out of the rocks.

For the yellows we have chrysanthemums (Heb. *chartzit*). And one of the most beautiful is called the tulip or horned poppy (Heb. *praega aduma*) because the flowers are shaped like a tulip with orange petals and a purple center. It is also distinguished by its silvery leaves.

Finally, even if you are a gardenaholic there is, after all, a limit to the amount of physical work anyone can do. If you are permanently on your hands and knees, you will be overlooking the big

picture. So simply spending some quiet, quality time contemplating your next moves is also time well spent. In fact, planning is an important part of gardening.

## TIP OF THE WEEK

This is the week to entertain guests. Look to your garden not only as a dining place to eat and drink but also as a source of food and beverage. If it is hot, make up a big pitcher full of healthy, refreshing mint-lemonade made with lemons picked from your own tree and mint plucked from the window box.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, P.O.B. 3943, Jerusalem 91039, or David Brauner, e-mail: [morris@mailbia.ac.il](mailto:morris@mailbia.ac.il) (write "for David" in the subject line).

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## Heads 'N' Tails



By D'vora Ben Shaul

A number of people have recounted that they bred their pure-breed bitch with a pedigreed male, after which she mated with another dog. They are amazed that there are all sorts of puppies in the litter.

This whole matter arises from the fact that a lot of dog (and cat) owners assume that once the bitch has mated she's pregnant and therefore not in danger if they let her out. This is a bad mistake.

What we are dealing with here is something called "suprafecundation."

Dogs and cats, as well as a number of other mammals, do not have a single ovulation during their fertile period but ovulate a number of times over a period of three to five days. This means, with the exception of rare cases of twinning, that each pup or kitten is the product of a totally separate conception, and the only thing they have in common is whatever they inherited from the dam (the mother).

Therefore a cat or dog could, if it mated with, let's say, six males during the fertile period, have six pups, each one with a different

sire (father).

In cases like those mentioned above, some of the pups will no doubt be pure bred, possibly of even superior quality, but the pups will not qualify for registration with the Kennel Club.

This is by no means a rare occurrence. Sometimes the breeder isn't even aware that somehow the bitch had mated with a second male until the pups are born.

In any case, the only thing you can do is sell the pups to good homes where no one is particularly interested in a pedigree. Tell the

buyer that the puppies that appear pure bred probably are, but you can give no guarantees and the animal cannot be registered.

Sometimes a pup looks very much like the dam and may seem to be all of one breed while small, but it may develop features characteristic of another breed later on.

In general, a cat needs to be kept in for a week after mating. A dog requires 14 to 16 days in order to be sure that it does not mate with another animal.

Dogs are usually fertile during days 9 to 14 of their estrus (heat)

period, but this is average. As the late Nobel Prize winner Linus Pauling used to tell his students, "Average: if you put your head in the refrigerator and your feet in the oven, then average will probably be comfortable."

I have known dogs to get pregnant as early as the day before the first signs of estrus appeared and as late as the 21st day. You never know for sure unless you guard the bitch for the full 21 days.

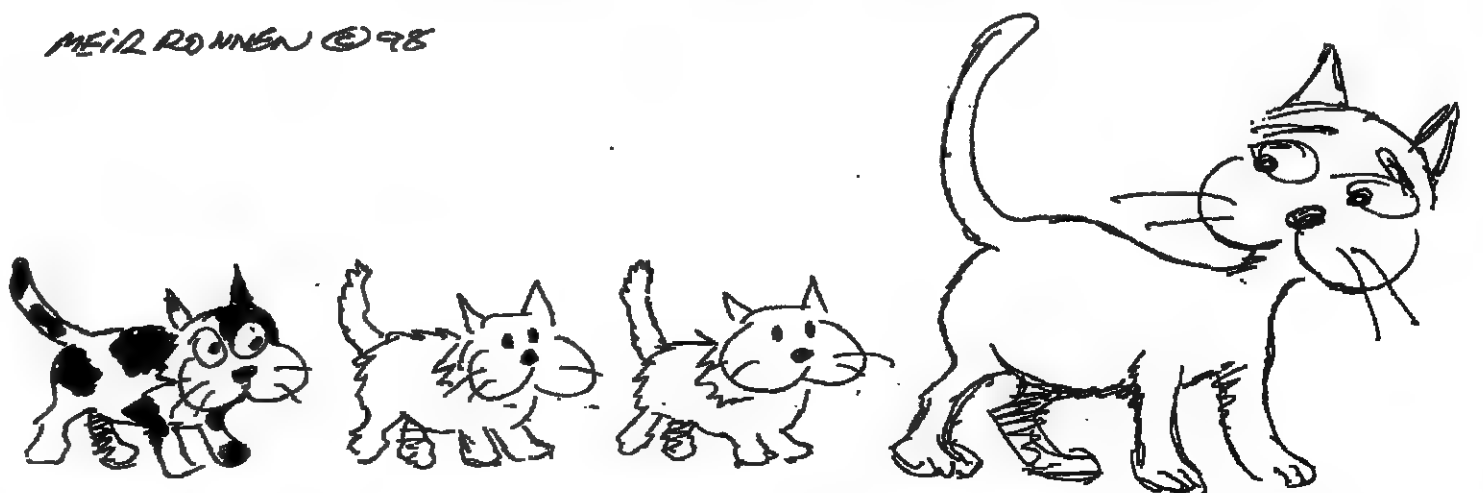
Cats should be kept closed in from the earliest signs of estrus. This is harder to detect than in a bitch, since

cats do not show any bleeding. Usually the first sign is the typical meowing, referred to as "calling." From that point the cat should, if not bred, be kept in until all calling has stopped. If bred, as mentioned before, then keep her in for another week.

Of course, if either dog or cat is not bred, then the dog must be kept secluded for a full 21 days and a cat for about four or five days. The dog will not come into estrus for another six months, but the cat will come into heat in about three or four weeks.

## The paternity problem

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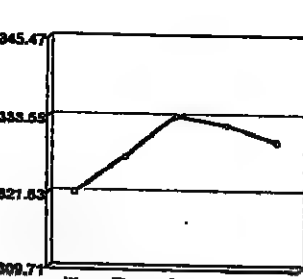
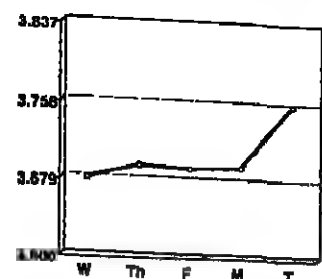
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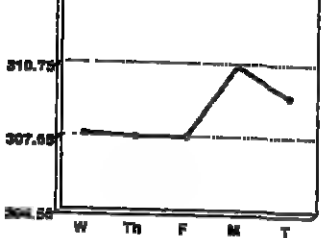
DOLLAR / SHEKEL

MAOF INDEX



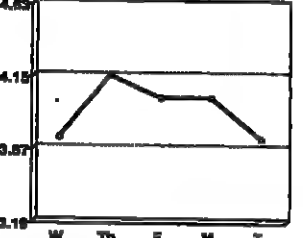
GOLD

\$ per ounce

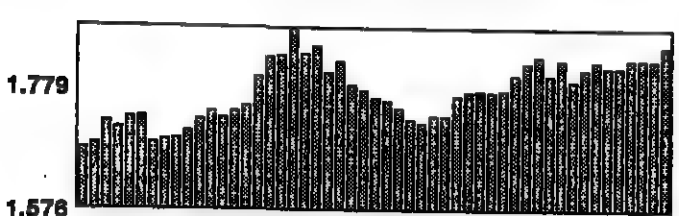


OIL

\$ per barrel of Brent crude



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### Indonesia wants to hold stake in companies' sale

Indonesia wants to maintain controlling interests in state-owned companies earmarked for privatization under a new reform deal with the International Monetary Fund, State-Owned Companies Minister Tanri Abeng said yesterday. He said a study on the readiness of 12 companies for privatization would be released on April 24. Abeng said President Suharto had ordered the government not to allow its stake in any of the companies to drop below 51 percent. He said the government would prefer to find "strategic investors" for some of the companies rather than have initial public offerings on the stock exchange. "That way we have only to sell 10 percent or 15 percent," he cited Suharto as saying. AP

### IMF: Japan must do more to boost its economy

The International Monetary Fund said Japan needs to do more than the measures it unveiled last week to stimulate its economy. "We are not yet there," said Michel Camdessus, managing director of the IMF, during a press conference at the fund's spring meeting. Camdessus said he expects Japanese officials to discuss with the IMF details of the package the country released last week at the meetings the fund is holding this week in Washington. Those details may convince IMF officials to raise the fund's forecast of no growth for 1998, said Camdessus. Bloomberg

## Dollar stabilizes at NIS 3.758

By DAVID HARRIS

The shekel's exchange rate was stabilized yesterday at the previous day's level - NIS 3.758. The Bank of Israel fixed that figure as its representative rate after a three-day break during which the bank did not revise its currency rates because of the Pessah and Easter holidays.

While the shekel had depreciated 1.788 percent from NIS 3.692 since the holidays commenced, after the central bank set the representative dollar rate at 12:08 p.m. yesterday it stood at the same level it reached in inter-bank trading on Monday. In early trading yesterday, the dollar reached a peak of NIS 3.785 before steadily depreciating against the shekel through the remainder of the day.

While there was considerable volatility through the day, dealers explained that there was particularly low volume due to the holidays. Most of the trading was conducted by larger players.

The basket of currencies, meanwhile, reached a new all-time high against the shekel at NIS 4.0152, up 1.962% on its Thursday rate. Within the basket, the strongest performers against the shekel since Thursday were the Japanese yen, up 4.436% to NIS 2.8954; the French franc, up 2.018% to NIS 0.6167; and the German mark, up 2.004% to NIS 2.0668. The remaining component of the basket, the British pound, showed a 1.826% increase, trading at NIS 6.2830.

A senior Treasury official said yesterday she was at a loss to explain the performance of the shekel during the past few days.

"I just don't know how to explain the public's behavior," she said. "I don't believe it's a case of uncertainty, after all most of the planned [foreign] liberalization program has already been published in the media."

However, Knesset Economics Committee Chairman Avi Yehzekel (Labor) called on Prime

Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to cut short his holiday in Eilat and, along with Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, formally announce the liberalization package as soon as possible instead of waiting until Independence Day (April 30) as planned. This would remove the uncertainty in the markets, Yehzekel said.

As far as internal Treasury decisions are concerned, little weight is being put on the current performance of the currency.

"I don't look at one day's trading, or even two weeks," said the Treasury official. "When we're making macroeconomic decisions, we look at activity over a period of two or three months."

The depreciation of the shekel in recent days has pushed the currency well above the lower limit of its trading band against the basket of major currencies. The band allows for a maximum 30% fluctuation in trading. In recent months, a consistently solid shekel stubbornly hovered just above the lower limit of the band. However, recent trading means the shekel is now 4.149% above the lower limit and if the basket continues to strengthen, the shekel will move further towards the center of the so-called diagonal exchange-rate mechanism.

The depreciation in the shekel was welcomed yesterday by Manufacturers Association Director-General Yoram Belizovsky as a boon for exporters, however, he expressed concern about the uncertainty in the market place.

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The depreciation in the shekel was welcomed yesterday by Manufacturers Association Director-General Yoram Belizovsky as a boon for exporters, however, he expressed concern about the uncertainty in the market place.

## Economists: April CPI at least 1%

By DAVID HARRIS

The 4.476 percent depreciation in the shekel against the dollar since the start of the month will lead to a jump in the Consumer Price Index of at least 1% when the April data is published next month, according to a variety of government and private sector economists. Every 3% depreciation tends to lead an increase of almost 1% in the CPI.

Meanwhile, economists suggest today's announcement of the March CPI will show a maximum increase of 0.3%.

However, they say it is unlikely that Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel will cut interest rates, especially after having cut the key lending rate by 1.2% over the last three months. Furthermore, given the likely increase in the CPI for April, economists say Frenkel will prefer to wait to see what happens in the coming weeks before continuing the downward trend.

## Check Point merges with MetaInfo in \$27.5m. deal

By NINA GILBERT

Check Point Software Technologies Ltd., the Ramat-Gan based maker of network security and traffic management solutions, yesterday announced its merger with MetaInfo, in a deal worth \$27.5m.

"This is the first time Check Point has made a merger or an acquisition," according to Limor Bakal, head of international sales and marketing. Previously, the company has only engaged in strategic partnerships and distribution agreements.

Under the deal, MetaInfo, based in Seattle, Washington, will become a wholly owned subsidiary of Check Point. MetaInfo is an international leader in network and Internet Protocol address management software.

"The merger with MetaInfo brings Check Point one step further toward our vision of secure, reliable, and management business communications over IP networks, embodied by our Secure Enterprise Connectivity

strategy," said Gil Shwed, president and CEO of Check Point.

In 1997, Check Point's revenues soared 160 percent to \$82.9m, compared with \$31.8m. in 1996. Net profit rose 164% to \$40.2m, compared with \$15m. in 1996.

The merger was registered as a pooling of interests transaction in which Check Point is to issue shares in exchange for all shares in MetaInfo.

"The deal is part of Check Point's aim to expand its product lines and increase its market share," said Bakal. "We will continue to look to expand our product lines, whether internally or by mergers and acquisitions."

MetaInfo's products will be added to Check Point's Enterprise Infrastructure management line. FloodGate-1, the company's flagship Internet/intranet network bandwidth management product, was launched six months ago. The company's main product is the FireWall-1, part of its enterprise security suite.

## Chinese concern cuts deals with 3 companies

By NINA GILBERT

The Chinese concern KSEC has signed agreements for joint ventures and strategic partnerships with three companies in the South, according to the Israel Export Institute, which hosted a delegation of senior company officials recently.

Kamy'a Research and Development, located in the Har Hevron industrial area, which develops components and technology for rubber recycling, will supply the Chinese with materials and professional services for the establishment of a joint factory in China for rubber recycling.

In the first phase, an experimental factory will be set up at a cost of some \$100,000. If successful the venture will set up a full-fledged factory at a sizable investment.

OzVision, of Kibbutz Nahal Oz, will supply KSEC with sophisticated optical security systems for factories and offices and for controlling traffic intersections. KSEC will also become the exclusive supplier of the products in southern China.

Another company, UET Water Recycling Industry Ltd., located in the Ormer industrial park, near Beersheba, will establish a partnership for the marketing of its sewage and water treatment products in China. In addition, the companies will establish a joint factory, with KSEC financing, for production of its products for the Chinese and Far Eastern market.

According to institute director-general Amir Hayek, the concern is also negotiating with Negev Soltek 2000, which produces solar heating systems; Auto Parking, which produces parking lot gates; and Atlas Geomatrix, which deals computerized imaging systems.

KSEC employs some 10,000 engineers and technicians. The company's factories previously produced for China's military industries but are now looking for industrial alternatives in the civilian sector.

The visit was organized by Goldking, an Israeli company in China which deals with trade and cooperation between Israeli and Chinese companies.

The deals follow a visit earlier this month by officials from the Chinese concern, CSSC, to the Roteim industrial area in the south, near Dimona. The company is negotiating with several companies for the establishment of factories in China based on Israeli technology.



Two young South Korean women check out a beauty salon advertising greatly reduced prices for 'IMF perms' in the trendy Myongdong shopping district of Seoul yesterday. In a bid to increase sales, the perms have been reduced from \$35 to \$14. The letters IMF have become a catchall phrase to describe the current economic crisis which has made South Korea dependent on the International Monetary Fund for bailout loans. Retail and service outlets in Seoul have been using the letters IMF to advertise their reduced prices. (Reuters)

## Korea earmarks \$14b. aid package

SEOUL 14 (Bloomberg) - South Korea will pump 20 trillion won (\$14 billion) into banks and companies, and give them less time to fend off mergers or closures, in a bid to force recalcitrant business leaders to change their ways.

The government will raise 10 trillion won for corporate investment and increase the amount of bad debts it buys to 30 trillion won

- a third more than planned - to help reorganize Korean businesses, the Ministry of Finance and Economy said.

The decision comes as labor unions at Hyundai Motors Co. and other companies threaten to down tools because of the slow pace of corporate and financial reform. Angry that they are bearing the brunt of the country's first recession since 1980, union leaders say business groups are reneging on promises to attract investment into Korean industry by selling off some of their unprofitable companies.

"We'll fight for our cause until the government looks into the cold reality, stops paying lip service, and does something," said Bae Jong Bae, president of the Korean Federation of Construction Trade Unions, which has 17,000 members.

The government's emphasis on bad debts could lead to more closures in Korea's stricken financial industry. Leasing firms, trust companies, finance companies, and banks are all in financial straits and the government said they may be forced to close or seek new investors by the end of June.

"We welcome the basic government policy on restructuring, but the amount of money on the table needs to be increased," said Lee Byung Woog, director of corporate policy at the Federation of Korean Industries, the country's main business lobby.

The government will set up two new mutual funds, worth 1 trillion won each in June, with investments by the state-run Korea Development Bank and other local financial institutions, the Finance Ministry said. One fund will invest in stocks and the other will help finance corporate restructuring.

These funds will be increased to as large as 5 trillion won each by the end of this year, by seeking foreign investors, such as International Finance Corp. and Quantum Fund.

In return for the support, the government will make the weakest banks come up with turnaround plans before the end of June - much earlier than planned - or face mergers or closure, the ministry said. In February, the central bank said 14 substandard banks will have up to two years to meet standards set by the Swiss-based Bank for International Settlements before it pushes them out of business under the terms of its \$60 billion credit line arranged by the International Monetary Fund.

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Registration forms and detailed brochures can be obtained free of charge from April 2 1998 at the Secretariat of Moshav Klar Mamon.

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# Arsenal get a dose of double vision

IT'S looking good for Arsenal.

Monday night's 4-1 annihilation of Blackburn Rovers in the snow following Saturday's 3-1 victory over FA Cup Final opponents Newcastle confirms the latest bookmaker expectations (3-1 on, Manchester United 9-4 against).

Eight wins on the trot is clearly championship form, and as Capital Radio football presenter Jonathan Pearce put it: "There is no doubt in my mind that Arsenal have played the best football in the Premiership. Manchester United have played in fits and starts, their minds have been in Europe."

Manchester United's hold on the Premiership is tenuous, to say the least - one point ahead having played two games more. Interestingly, both clubs have yet to visit relegation-threatened Barnsley, but Arsenal now look the most likely.

In fact Ladbrokes are now quoting Arsenal at 11-10 against the double, four months ago you could have got 125-1.

The great quality of Arsenal this season has been their ability to bounce back from a miserable run of form in November and December when they lost four league games out of six. Since the home defeat to Blackburn on December 13, Arsenal have not been beaten in the league in 15 games, and for the statistically minded, until Warren Barton scored Newcastle's consolation goal on Saturday, Arsenal had not conceded a league goal for 13 hours and 43 minutes.

Much has been made of Arsenal's French connection including manager Arsene Wenger and players Nicolas Anelka, Patrick Vieira, Emmanuel Petit and Remi Garde.

Vieira's contribution has been immense, but a word of praise is in order for old-timers Tony Adams, Martin Keown and Ray Parlour, all of whom have been outstanding.

Wenger, who won the March Manager-of-the-Month award, is way ahead of Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson in the psychol-

ogy stakes in the run-in. Football fans across the country are tired of Manchester's apparent "divine right" to win trophies, and are particu-

## LONDON CALLING

larly annoyed at Ferguson's complaining about fixture pile-ups.

Wenger, on the other hand, has brought a much more cultured approach to management, and is more at ease with the media. According to Parlour, Wenger never shouts at players in the dressing room after the game, as is the British managerial tradition.

Instead, he quietly asks a player to study a video of where he perceives he has gone wrong. And any manager who has persuaded Tony Adams to study English literature must have talent.

One person who could benefit by changing his style of management is Tottenham head coach Christian Gross, whose cool-as-you-like approach is clearly having little effect on his troubled team.

At White Hart Lane on Easter Monday in the 1-1 draw between Tottenham and Coventry, Gross stood impassively on the touchline, arms crossed, his thought process interrupted by the occasional cry of "come on" while Coventry boss Gordon Strachan, never afraid to display his emotions was pacing up and down in must-ard-lavatory-quick mode.

The symbiosis came to an ugly head minutes before the break when an animated Strachan approached Gross with a trade of abuse against Spurs' striker Jurgen Klinsmann whom Strachan believed was feigning an injury in order to get Coventry defender David Borrows into trouble.

Gross was also confronted on the touchline by Spurs striker Chris Armstrong who, on being

substituted, approached his manager with a less than friendly look. The ever polite Gross offered Armstrong his hand, the striker declined and walked down the tunnel with a look which suggested that he would not be making a beeline for Tottenham High Road to buy a bumper bar of Toblerone for his Swiss boss.

At the other end of the Premiership, Newcastle made up some lost ground with a crucial win over Barnsley. But they are not out of trouble yet, and the behavior of their manager Kenny Dalglish is getting stranger by the day.

After the defeat at Highbury, Dalglish got embroiled in an unfortunate slanging match with a journalist at the press conference. "What's the significance of this result Kenny?" Dalglish's response: "Not as wide in significance as what your waistline is at the moment."

Journalist: "Is that relevant?" Dalglish: "It is for your health."

The Guardian's David Lacey summed up Dalglish's extraordinary outburst as follows. "Never mind the waistline, it's the waterline he (Dalglish) should be worried about."

DESPITE the snow, the domestic cricket season started yesterday, and with the South Africans arriving for a five-test series, it promises to be a fascinating summer. Cricket may be a poor relation to football over here, but gone are the days when players would get together a few days before the season for some stretches in between nets. Nowadays, cricketers are part of the sporting jet-set even if the reality is slightly different. Midweek county games in England struggle to attract 1,000 people.

Middlesex, joint fourth last season, embarked on a week's training camp in the Algarve, Yorkshire toured South Africa, while champions Glamorgan had a more modest week in Jersey. Once again, overseas players will be crucial, with Brian Lara, Carl Hooper, Phil Simmons, Saglain Mushtaq and Michael Slater among the big names.

# France moves to reassure visitors

LONDON (Reuters) - France assured foreign tourists yesterday that they would be able to visit the country this summer without enduring World Cup soccer mayhem and inflated prices.

Tourism Minister Michelle Demessine told a news conference in London that, while France was hosting the tournament from June 10 to July 12, most of the country would not be affected directly.

"There will be no matches in 95 percent of the country and the prices will be the normal prices that people pay," she said.

Eager to ensure that the World Cup does not deter ordinary tourists, Demessine said that measures were being taken to protect holidaymakers' pockets.

"We want to present a smiling face, to show that France is happy to welcome all the visitors this summer," she said.

"We will do everything we can to ensure that we don't disappoint them and to ensure that people who do not watch soccer enjoy their visit to France." She said a recently announced "Operation Prix Bleu" initiative aimed to guarantee stable prices.

More than 14 million tourists, as well as 500,000 foreign football fans, are expected in France during the tournament from June 10 to July 12.

# SPORTS

in brief

## Scots leave McCoist in reserve against Finns

GLASGOW (Reuters) - Scotland have failed to find a place for Rangers striker Ally McCoist in their squad for next week's friendly with Finland in Edinburgh.

Scotland coach Craig Brown said yesterday he had decided to give 35-year-old McCoist, who has scored seven goals in seven games for his club since returning from injury, a run-out in the B international against Norway next Tuesday instead.

"A" squad: Goalkeepers: Jim Leighton (Aberdeen), Andy Goram (Rangers) Neil Sullivan (Wimbledon). Defenders: Tom Boyd (Colde), Colin Calderwood (Tottenham Hotspur), Christian Dailly (Derby County), Matt Elliott (Leicester City), Colin Hendry (Blackburn Rovers), David Weir (Hearts), Derek Whyte (Aberdeen).

Midfielders: Craig Burley (Colde), Scot Gemmill (Nottingham Forest), John Collins (Mansfield), Paul Lambert (Colde), Jackie McNamara (Colde), Stuart McCall (Rangers), Billy McKirdy (Blackburn Rovers).

Forwards: Scott Booth (Barnsley), Gordon Durie (Rangers), Kevin Gallacher (Blackburn Rovers), Eoin Jess (Aberdeen), Darren Jackson (Colde), Simon Donnelly (Colde).

## S. Waugh takes Australia to win

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - Skipper Steve Waugh followed two key wickets with a half century and Michael Bevan struck an unbeaten 75 as Australia beat India by four wickets in the final of a triangular one-day series yesterday. Australia lost the toss but still restricted India to 227 all out in 49.3 overs.

The victory was some compensation for an otherwise dismal tour for Australia, who lost their Test series 2-1.

The match also saw another milestone for Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin who hit 44 to pass 8,000 runs in one-day internationals.

## Top Japanese tennis player retires

TOKYO (Reuters) - Japanese No. 1 Shuzo Matsuoka crashed 6-3, 6-3 to Ivo Heuberger of Croatia in the Japan Open first round yesterday then retired from tournament tennis.

Matsuoka reached his peak in the mid-1990s when he was ranked 46th in world and in 1995 reached the Wimbledon quarter-finals.

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## CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba's exciting opera gems series concludes with extended excerpts from Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin* Saturday and next Monday in Beersheba; April 21 in Ashkelon; April 25 in Arad; and April 27 in Dimona (8:30 except Saturdays at 9). Menahem Ben-Haim is on the podium and the soloists are Larissa Tutuev as the hapless Tatyana who resolves to give up her love in order to maintain her dignity; Vladimir Brown as the nonchalant protagonist who learns too late what love is all about; Yevgeny Shapovalov as the casual and hot-blooded Lensky; and Susanna Foretsky as his flirtatious fiancée, Olga.

Helmuth Rilling leads the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and his own Gächinger Kantorei in an all-Bruckner program featuring the *Te Deum*, *Psalm 150* and the second mass with soloists Soile Isokoski, Seilla Doufexis, Gunnar Gudbjornsson and Herman Hurtaalo. Saturday, Sunday and Monday at the Haifa Auditorium and next Tuesday at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv (8:30 except Saturday at 9).

The Musica Sacra festival takes place today through Friday with a variety of concerts in the



Dan Ettinger sings Bach cantatas.

Salesian Church and the Sisters of Mary Church in Nazareth. The 15 concerts feature local and international singers and choral ensembles in a variety of programs. Among the more interesting concerts are the *Cherubini Requiem* and *Cimarra Magnifica* with the Tel Aviv Chamber Choir (today at 4), Bach cantatas with Sharon Rostoff and Dan Ettinger (tomorrow at 7) and the *Faure Requiem* (Friday at 5:30).

The Musical Passover at Bet Daniel in Zichron Ya'acov festival concludes with two concerts this weekend. Tonight (8) is a program focusing on Goethe and Romantic composers while tomorrow (2:30) there is music by Schubert, Beethoven, Franck and others.

## TV

## CHANNEL 1 (11)

8:30 News Flash  
8:31 News in Arabic  
8:45 Good Morning Israel

## EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Dog Channel  
10:00 Pessah Studio  
10:20 Fairy Tale Theater  
11:10 Glad Rags  
11:35 South By  
12:15 Moby  
12:45 Dog Channel  
14:30 Fanning the Hills  
15:00 Escape from Jupiter

## CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 Zep 1 and Elie Elie  
15:35 X Men  
16:00 Byker Grove  
16:30 Non-Stop Toppi  
16:50 A New Evening  
17:30 Prince and Pauper  
18:00 Elie Elie  
18:15 News in English

## ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Where Are We Going?  
19:00 Arabic News

## HEBREW PROGRAMS

19:30 News Flash  
19:31 Choosing the Justice  
19:53 Fined on the Street  
20:00 News  
20:45 Conference Call  
20:50 The Night  
21:15 Royal Canadian Air Force  
21:45 Le Bal du Moulin Rouge  
22:45 Entertainment Now  
23:00 Grace Under Fire  
23:01 Fined on the Street  
23:30 News  
23:50 Verse of the Day

## CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs  
5:55 On the Edge of  
6:00 Rupert Bear  
6:30 Choco with Tel-Aviv  
6:45 Coffee with Tel-Aviv  
6:50 The Third Time  
7:00 My Father  
7:05 Tell Me (Canada, 1975)  
7:10 Brotherly Love  
7:15 Amazing Stories  
7:20 Home and Away  
7:30 Calculated Risk  
7:40 Sesame Street  
7:50 Timon and  
8:00 The Young and the Restless (rpt)  
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## CHANNEL 3

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7:30 Love Story  
8:00 Celeste  
8:30 The Life to Live  
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## JORDAN TV (31)

17:00 Holy Koran  
17:10 Mr. Bogus  
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## MOVIE CHANNEL

11:30 Last Flight Out  
11:35 - true story

## SECOND SHOWING

22:15 Anna (Russian)

## JERUSALEM

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## Inside

**Bulls upset at home**

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**Arsenal see double**

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Sports Editors  
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis**Zalgiris wins first European hoops trophy**

BELGRADE (Reuters) — Zalgiris Kaunas won their first European trophy when they beat Stefanel Milan 82-67 in the European Cup final in Belgrade last night.

It was a great night for the Lithuanian club's Saulius Stombergas. His 34 points exceeded the combined total of Stefanel's two leading scorers.

The Italian club's guards were unable to shackle Stombergas who scored 14 points in the first 10 minutes.

Stefanel never got closer than 11 points to Zalgiris's score throughout the game.



FULL OF CONFIDENCE — Israel captain Amir Shelah (left) and Haim Revivo at yesterday's practice session at the capital's Teddy Stadium. (Brian Headler)

# Israel faces Argentina tonight

By ORI LEWIS

The team with nothing to lose (Israel), appears to be the one brimming with confidence for today's friendly international with Argentina at the capital's Teddy Stadium (kick-off 18:00).

The team which thinks it has a great deal to lose (Argentina) has played it safe as it readies for its first World Cup warm-up match.

Argentina, a side made up largely of relatively "unknown" but nevertheless classy players, except for superstar striker Gabriel Batistuta, evidently preferred to keep a low profile after coach Daniel Passarella ordered closed training sessions yesterday and on Monday.

The Argentines have never lost to Israel in four previous meetings. In the last three they went away with convincing wins. The first in 1973 was a drawn game before the visitors had risen to become a world-beater.

Shlomo Scharf's men have shown an air of confidence not normally associated with an Israeli soccer side.

"The Argentines are a top-notch side, but I can promise that we will meet them head-on. We are no longer 'inferior' oppo-

nents," Scharf said. "I can't predict the outcome of the game, but I can promise that we will do everything possible to reach the final whistle with a good result," the Israel coach said.

Scharf will name his side only today. Defender David Amisalem has been released because of a groin injury. His place has been filled by Najwan Grayev.

Eyal Berkovic is also a doubtful starter after arriving from London yesterday following two difficult Premiership matches with West Ham over the Easter holiday. Although he will play, Scharf will decide whether to start him or Ronnen Harazi.

Israel's starting lineup will probably be chosen from the following players:

Rafi Cohen/ Nir Davidovich; Alon Harazi, Amir Shelah, Arik Benado, Ran Ben-Shimon, Najwan Grayev; Jan Talasnikov, Yossi Abuksis, Eyal Berkovic/Ronnen Harazi, Haim Revivo; Alon Mizrahi.

The Jerusalem Municipality said yesterday the match is almost certain to be a sellout and the box-offices are not expected to open today for on-the-spot ticket sales.

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MATCHWINNER — Ronaldo celebrates after scoring the first of his two goals for Inter Milan in the Italian club's 2-1 win over Spartak Moscow in the Russian capital yesterday. (Reuters)

## Inter, Lazio to meet in UEFA Cup final

MOSCOW (Reuters) — World Player of the Year Ronaldo struck on the stroke of halftime and again in the second half to kill off a brave display by Spartak Moscow and put Inter Milan into an all-Italian UEFA Cup final against Lazio yesterday.

Lazio reached their first ever European final as they held Atletico Madrid to a scoreless draw in the second leg of their semifinal clash at the Olympic stadium to claim a 1-0 aggregate victory.

In a tense, scrappy match, the visitors rarely looked like penetrating an impressive Lazio defence and failed to hit the target with the few chances they managed to create.

Spartak Moscow 1, Inter Milan 2  
Winger Andrei Tikhonov put the Russians in the driving seat at the start, weaving through a static Inter defence to crash home a spectacular effort in the 12th minute, levelling

the semifinal aggregate score at 2-2 with an away goal in Spartak's favor.

Ronaldo, sporting a skiing head-band to fend off the bitter cold, looked uncomfortable on a soggy pitch from which some 30 cms of snow had been cleared this week.

But all it took was a moment of inattention by centre back Miroslav Romashchenko. He failed to clear a short cross and the Brazilian stabbed home from 10 metres moments before the halftime whistle.

Spartak dominated midfield and won a succession of corners with a nine-man attack but could not find a gap as the Italians came back out to defend.

On a rare Inter break Ronaldo created the killer goal from nothing. He weaved past three players to slot home past Alexander Filimonov in the 76th minute, making it 2-1 on the night and 4-2 on aggregate.

## Hoddle warns England hopefuls

LONDON (Reuters) — England manager Glenn Hoddle yesterday warned more than 50 players summoned for two internationals next week that any late withdrawals could prove costly to those concerned.

England's last World Cup warm-up match, a disappointing 1-1 draw in Switzerland a month ago, was plagued by a mass of players pulling out injured.

Most were from Manchester United and Arsenal, the clubs challenging for the league title.

Yesterday, the manager said any man leaving his squad to face Portugal at Wembley on April 22 or from the B side to face Russia at

Loftus Road the previous day could miss out on a World Cup place.

"I'm not asking too much getting players together three months before the World Cup. These things have been arranged with one eye on France. There would be a problem for anyone who doesn't come."

Goalkeepers: David Seaman, Nigel Martyn, Tim Flowers, Ian Walker, Kevin Pressman.  
Defenders: Sol Campbell, Martin Keown, Gary Neville, Gareth Southgate, Tony Adams, Stuart Pearce, Rio Ferdinand, Andy Blatchford, Dominic Matteo, Phil Neville.

Midfielders: David Beckham, Ray Parlour, Graeme Le Saux, Paul Ince, David Berry, Paul Gascoigne, Nicky Butt, Rob Lee, Jamie Redknapp.  
Strikers: Paul Merson, Paul Scholes, Steve McNamara, Alan Shearer, Teddy Sheringham, Michael Owen, Dion Dublin, Andy Cole, Ian Wright, Les Ferdinand.

## SCOREBOARD

SOCCER — Israel's under-21 side drew 1-1 with their German opponents in Darmstadt last night.  
ENGLISH SOCCER — Results last night: Premier League Leicester City 3, Southampton 3. Division one: Queens Park Rangers 1, Oxford 1. Division two: Bournemouth 1, Watford 0; Luton 3, Chesterfield 0.